

The rise and fall of the 'safer' cigarette, page 14

Tories would allow new closed shops 'if massive vote in favour'

Mr Prior told the Conservative Party conference at Blackpool yesterday that, though he did not favour the closed shop in principle, reality meant that it could be unwise to ban the practice outright. Before a future Tory government would consider a union's

application for a closed shop, however, "we will expect a ballot of all employees affected. Only if a massive majority vote in favour will negotiations proceed". Sir Keith Joseph [conference report, page 6] said that greater productivity was imperative for Britain's economic success. To that end it was essential to

stop overmanning in industry by "the intelligent use of voluntary departure by resignation and retirement". Mr St John-Stevens said the Conservatives wanted to improve, not destroy, the comprehensive school system, but such schools would no longer be imposed arbitrarily on local authorities.

Mr Prior confident about relations with the unions

David Wood, Mr Prior's spokesman, said that the Conservative Party's policy on the closed shop was "a matter of principle". He said that the party was not in favour of the closed shop in principle, but that it was a matter of principle. He said that the party was not in favour of the closed shop in principle, but that it was a matter of principle. He said that the party was not in favour of the closed shop in principle, but that it was a matter of principle.



Mrs Thatcher and Lord Carrington singing "Let there be light" at the opening of the Conservative Party Conference

look as though he is on the way back. Mr Prior's speech was simple enough. At the end of a difficult day in which one rank-and-file speaker after another had aggressively complained about trade union power, he said that "in the Conservative Party we are against the closed shop, full stop". He added: "I am not just speaking for myself. It is the policy of the party. It is the policy of the party. It is the policy of the party."

As Churchill had said, jaw-jaw was better than war-jaw, and therefore there had been talks with management and trade unions. The real divide was not between sections of the Conservative Party but between Conservatives and Labour.

Mr Prior put bluntly the question that has often been on every pundit's lips. How would the next Conservative government get on with the unions? Would there be a snash-up? Would democracy die?

"I am fed up to the back teeth with that argument," Mr Prior said. "It is a load of rubbish. We will talk with and listen to all the great interest groups that make up our society, not just the TUC and the CBI. Then it will be our job in government to take the lead anew in what we believe

Rosy glow over British links with Russia as Dr Owen's visit ends

From David Spanier, Moscow, Oct 11
The possibility of President Brezhnev coming to Britain is now on the cards as a result of the highly successful visit to Moscow by Dr David Owen, Foreign Secretary. The visit ended tonight.

The official Soviet news agency Tass noted that the invitation to Mr Brezhnev from Mr Callaghan, the Prime Minister, was still outstanding and that suitable dates for the visit would be discussed. This may or may not come to anything, but it reflects again the rosy glow over Anglo-Soviet relations.

Continuing their discussion on Africa today, Dr Owen and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, found to a surprising degree that their views were running on similar lines. Both agreed that if the political frontier in Africa began to be shifted as a result of the use of arms or on the basis of ethnic or tribal claims, there was bound to be trouble.

Their view was that boundaries in Africa are often fairly arbitrary. If every claim was to be pursued without thought of the political implications for security, the result would be chaos.

This is not to suggest that the Soviet Union has in any way abandoned its fundamental position that it supports the cause of the Africans seeking their freedom or their right to fight for it. But it does show that both countries are serious about their discussion of the United Nations' role, are anxious to use diplomacy where possible.

In general the success of the British visit here is explained in the light of the new warmth in American-Soviet relations. Once Moscow understood that President Carter was serious about détente but that his objective was not inconsistent with pursuing disarmament talks with the Soviet Union, the Russian leadership felt more at ease.

Inquiry into trial exhibit labels begun

An investigation by senior policemen has been launched into the authenticity of exhibit labels in a trial at Exeter Crown Court. The case is one in which a 36-year-old man, accused of 14 burglaries from the homes of well-known people throughout the south and west, is being tried.

Anti-Concorde bishop named for Birmingham

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent
The Bishop Suffragan of Kingston upon Thames, Dr Hugh Montefiore, was named yesterday as the new Bishop of Birmingham in spite of some local opposition to his appointment. He is 57.

He is the first bishop to be appointed under the new Crown Appointments Commission system, by which the Church of England selects its own candidates for virtually all its bishoprics.

Dr Montefiore, an outspoken opponent of the Concorde, who has never suggested that Christ might have been a practising homosexual, is one of the most controversial figures in the Church of England. He said yesterday that Christianity was about reconciliation and he promised to listen to his critics because one can learn from criticism.

His candidature had been opposed in Birmingham, most notably by Mr Anthony Beaumont, a local Conservative MP, and also in a local newspaper. The case against him was that Birmingham was an inappropriate city to which to send a bishop who had expressed misgivings about the technological age.

Councils advised to keep grammar schools

From Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent
Mr Norman St John-Stevens, Conservative spokesman on education, urged local authorities to stand on their feet on the first day of his party's conference at Blackpool in which he made clear that there would be no attempt by a future Conservative Administration to turn back the clock by the wholesale restoration of grammar schools at the expense of comprehensive education.

Tory government to restore grammar schools regardless of the disruption that might be caused to the education system, to teachers and to pupils. Rejecting demands the effect of which would be to turn education into a political shambles, he said that the Conservative Party was in favour of the comprehensive system in which four-fifths of children were being educated. That would avoid, he said, the "horrors of the Clockwork Orange" society which was in danger of being translated from fantasy into reality.

Direct grant schools would be brought back in a new form so that parents of modest means would have increased opportunities to send their children to them. That would be done by starting to do so again would be possible to do away with such schools by ministerial edict or circular.

Conservative policy, Mr St John-Stevens added, was aimed not at bringing back the 11-plus but at a continuing system of selection at different ages. "But the main part of Conservative effort would be devoted to improving the performance of comprehensive schools, some of which were doing excellent work. Next month the party would be publishing the results of a two-year survey of comprehensives and that would show that Tories

were not against the idea of comprehensives but were against their compulsory imposition. He offered a six-point charter for comprehensives: smaller schools, a place for the sixth-form college as well as the traditional sixth form, no mixed-ability teaching except in special cases, comprehensives to develop their own teaching specialties, special help for teachers in comprehensives to avoid the "horrors of the Tyrannical" and the reintroduction of national standards of literacy and numeracy.

Concorde to face veto in New York

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, Oct 11
Mr Hugh Carey, Governor of New York State, said last night that he would veto any proposal by the New York and New Jersey Port Authority to let Concorde use Kennedy airport for a trial period.

Sanction threat to heating and pottery groups

The Government has warned the heating and ventilation industry and the Wedgwood pottery company that they risk having sanctions applied against them if they exceed the 10 per cent rise limit. Wedgwood has withdrawn a loan offer to its staff, and the heating industry's management and unions are to discuss an agreed 20 per cent rise with the Government.

Briton's Nobel prize

Sir Nevill Martin of Cambridge University has been awarded the Nobel prize for physics jointly with Dr Philip Anderson and Professor John von Neumann. The prize was awarded to three Americans. Their work has opened new avenues in electronics. The chemistry prize goes to Professor Prigogine of Brussels.

Czechs hijack plane

A young couple working for Czechoslovakia's state airline hijacked one of its small planes at gunpoint and forced it to fly to West Germany where they have asked for political asylum. Czechoslovakia has requested their extradition.

Bhutto trial opens

Mr Bhutto, former Prime Minister of Pakistan, went on trial charged with a conspiracy to murder a political opponent.

Scope for tax cuts

Official figures show that although the Government moved substantially into debt last month it is still well below the borrowing forecasts made for the Budget, pointing to room for £1,000m tax cuts, this autumn without breaching the International Monetary Fund guidelines.

Receiver for Fairey

Fairey, the aviation and engineering group, which had a £3.7m fall in pre-tax profits, is to ask its bankers to appoint a receiver over difficulties in disposing of its Belgian aviation subsidiary. The Belgian Government opposes the sale of the Britten-Norman aircraft business.

Grants go unclaimed

Thousands of pensioners have not received cash payments to which they were entitled to help them to save some of their heating costs because not enough publicity was given to the conditions for which grants can be given, according to a new energy users' guide.

Chancellor sells

Mr Hesley, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has sold his five-bedroom Windlesham Lodge, at Withyham, East Sussex, for more than £40,000. He bought the house and two acres for £15,000 in 1969.

Tampering with mail

Moscow has been accused of tampering with mail between the Soviet Union and the United States. With this assertion by the American delegation, the Belgrade review of the 1975 Helsinki pact gets down to specifics for the first time in the sensitive area of human rights.

'Keep Polaris' study

A study of the future of Britain's nuclear deterrent favours a new fleet of ballistic missile submarines. It says ballistic missiles still have the advantage over subsonic cruise missiles.

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"It's hardly a licence to print money."

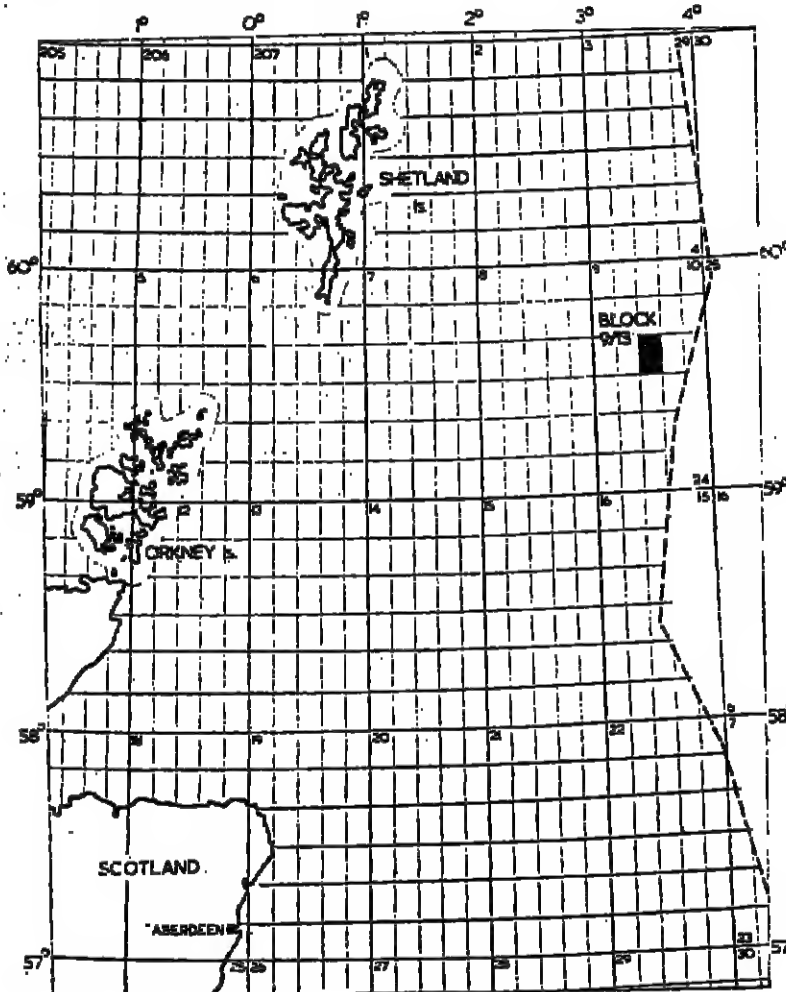
For any British youngster, North Sea oil is a fact of daily life that seems always to have been with us—like television, perhaps, or fish fingers.

Not quite so. The whole vast spread of North Sea oil activity came to life less than 20 years ago—in 1959, on the coast of Holland at Groningen, when one of the largest natural gas fields in the world was discovered. Since oil and gas frequently occur in the same area, and since the geologic basin in which the Groningen discovery was made extends under the North Sea, the Groningen find raised hopes for oil and gas production in the North Sea.

The study of possible oil-bearing rock formations beneath the sea bed off Britain's coast began in 1962. Two years later, the Continental Shelf Act was passed by Parliament; in September, 1964, the government issued the first licences "to search and bore for, and get, petroleum".

There have been five licensing rounds so far, the most recent in the early part of this year. By September, 1977, a total of 246 licences had been awarded, most of them in the North Sea and the balance in the Irish Sea, in Cardigan Bay and the Celtic Sea, and in the Atlantic west of Shetland and the Orkney Islands.

For licensing purposes, the Continental Shelf has been divided into a draughtsboard of 'blocks', each 75 to 100 square miles in area. The licensing process begins when the Department of Energy offers exploration and producing rights in certain of these blocks. After studying survey results on the likelihood of finding oil in the blocks, companies submit



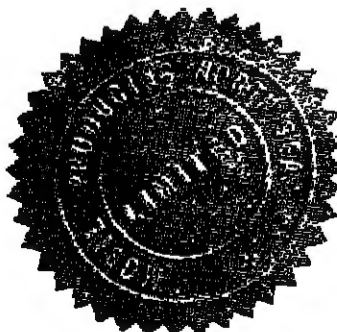
Description of Licensed Area

The sea area bounded by lines joining the following co-ordinates on European Datum:

- (1) 59° 40' 00"N : 1° 24' 00"E (2) 59° 40' 00"N : 1° 36' 00"E
(3) 59° 30' 00"N : 1° 36' 00"E (4) 59° 30' 00"N : 1° 24' 00"E

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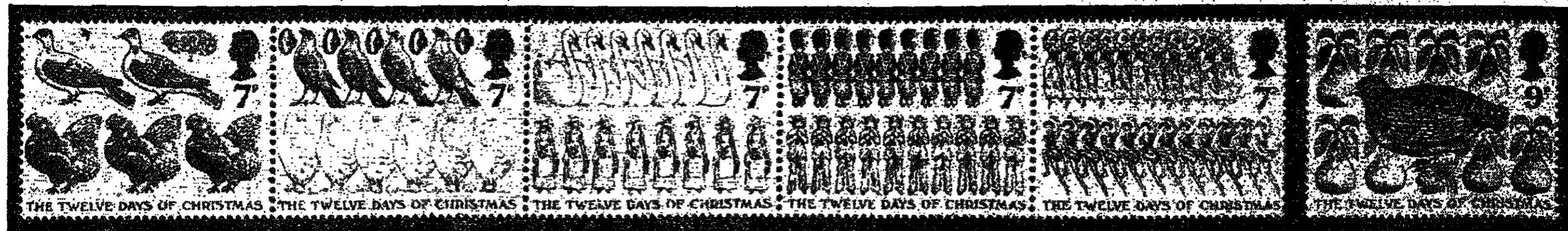
detailed applications to the government, setting out what they expect to find and how they would explore and develop the acreage. It is common for several companies to form partnerships, because of the tremendously high costs involved in the search for oil.

Companies' financial and technical capability, previous licence experience and relevant exploration work are among the main criteria used by the government in judging applications.

When a licence is first issued, it is only valid for six to seven years. At the end of the initial term, the licence can be extended for 30 to 40 years. But the licence-holder must, at the same time, turn back to the government a major part of the acreage covered by the licence. If it wishes, the government may elect to offer this 'relinquished' acreage to all applicants in subsequent licensing rounds. The licence lays down a yearly rent for the block and general regulations governing exploration and producing activities.

"It's hardly a licence to print money", comments Mobil lawyer Vivien Gall. "On the contrary, meeting the terms and regulations requires you to *spend* vast sums of money, but with no assurance that you will ever get any of it back".

HOME NEWS



Elderly lose because of secrecy on grants

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

Thousands of pensioners have lost grants to help them to insulate their homes because the conditions for which they can claim have been kept secret. That was stated yesterday by the newly-formed Energy Advice Service when it published the criteria in its first publication, a consumer's guide to energy use.

The guide shows that pensioners can get grants of between 50 and 90 per cent of the cost of insulating their lofts, which can reduce heat loss by 15 per cent, provided they are entitled to rate rebates. But such grants, available under the home improvement grant system, have been paid to only 10 pensioners between 1974 and March, 1977.

"We know that a million pensioners are being denied assistance because they cannot afford to meet their heating bills," Mr. David Green, co-ordinator of Energy Advice Service, said yesterday. "Most of them would be entitled to grants to help them with loft insulation because they would clearly be entitled to rate rebates. They have not had them because nobody bothered to tell them they could claim."

Mr. Green said the criteria had been discovered accidentally after months of pressure by his organization, which was concerned that engineers

untrained in welfare were unable to decide whether pensioners were entitled to grants or not. But the situation had improved since March, when authority to give the grants was delegated from the Department of Environment to local councils. A new leaflet giving the conditions is to be published soon by an interdepartmental working party.

The Energy Advice Service's guide shows that elderly and disabled council tenants can have their lofts insulated under the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act, although they must first decide whether there is a real need.

The guide gives information on the comparative costs of heating rooms with different fuels, and on what advice and assistance is available to help people to pay their bills. It is the first step in the service's programme to persuade the Government that local heating and insulation advice points should be established.

The Energy Advice Service, based in Durham, hopes to demonstrate that such projects can help consumers to use energy more wisely by making independent information on fuel use available.

Energy Guide (Energy Advice Service, 84 Clarendon, Durham, TS1 1RG, 65p, or £1.50 with bi-monthly updating).

Working in the nationalized industries 3: The board room

A leadership embittered by lack of pay and policy

By Ian Bradley

It is at board-room level that dissatisfaction among those working for nationalized industries is undoubtedly greatest. The well publicized departures from their jobs last year of Sir Monty Pimms, former chairman of the British Steel Corporation, and Sir Richard Marsh, former chairman of British Rail, and the recent "revolt" by the directors of Cable and Wireless underline the frustration at the top of public corporations.

At the top of the list of grievances is pay. Leaders of nationalized industries are furious because they have suffered a wage freeze for nearly four years while the pay of other public servants and of their counterparts in private industry has risen considerably. They are particularly bitter at the way that the recommendations of the Boyle report on top salaries were implemented for jobs and civil servants but not for them.

Mr. Alfred Singer, director of Giro until last year, says he reached the stage "where I was thinking about paying every day and it was just gnawing away at me". Sir Richard Marsh reckons that nationalized industries' leaders have seen a 40 per cent fall in their expected spending power. He says

British Rail was without a finance director for seven months recently "because the rate being offered would not buy the fifth man in an average London firm of accountants".

Top managers also feel more keenly than others working for nationalized industries the consequences of interference from civil servants and politicians. They suffer in a direct way the middle managers' frustration at not being able to run their businesses. For Sir Richard the worst thing about being chairman of British Rail was "being forced to preside over a financial shambles and being prevented from doing anything about it. The shareholders, that is, the ministers, are not interested in getting a return for their money." Similarly Mr. Singer complains about the difficulty of taking decisions as director of the National Giro.

Nationalized industries are particularly depressed by the lack of interest shown by ministers. Sir Richard complains that during his five and a half years in charge of the railways he never had a serious discussion with a minister about overall strategy and long-term planning, yet he was plagued by politicians complaining about rivalries.

One of the great crises of his chairmanship was when he was telephoned at home in the

middle of a Bank holiday weekend to be told that an urgent letter had been delivered to the British Rail board in a ministerial car. He hastened to the office and found it was a two-page letter from the Minister of Transport about British Rail's decision to give up carrying heavy freight wagons.

Sir Richard received more than 250 letters from MPs on the same subject. Yet when he arranged a discussion for MPs on British Rail's financial performance only two attended.

There is particular frustration in the nationalized board rooms over the failure of governments to fix and hold to any long-term strategy. During Sir Richard's tenure at British Rail no investment programme lasted more than six months. The railways lost a brilliant young economist because he complained that in four years he had never been able to finish a single calculation, so frequent were ministerial changes of direction.

Nationalized concerns are not happy about the way their businesses are used as political tools. They complain of price apportioners deliberately deferred, at huge costs to the taxpayer, because of impending elections, and wage settlements that they cannot afford being forced on them by government to pacify trade unions.

They are particularly frustrated about lurches in pricing policy. The Government, they say, will decide it wants no increases in prices so the nationalized industries have to sell their products well below cost. Then suddenly the Chancellor will announce that they are to charge realistic prices and not rely on subsidies, and the whole basis, on which they have operated will suddenly be reversed.

Interference by civil servants seems to cause less trouble than the activities of politicians. Mr. Singer found it frustrating that the Post Office was pervaded by a civil servant rather than a business mentality, and a civil servant suggested to Sir Richard that the railways should stop replacing worn-out short lengths of track with continuously welded rail because it constituted capital investment on which there was supposed to be a freeze, rather than maintenance.

But, in general, managers of nationalized industries believe that they are developing a reasonably harmonious and constructive working relationship with civil servants. The British Steel Corporation is experimenting with civil servants in managerial positions in its works for short periods in the hope that it will increase mutual understanding.

Behind the complaints lies a deep frustration. There is no doubt that many of those at the top of the nationalized industries miss the competitive ethos and drive to make profits that exist in private industry.

A manager hired from retailing to take over a senior position in a nationalized concern says he left after three years because he did not like running a monopoly. A manager in the steel industry put it more bluntly: "The trouble is you do not know whether you are running an industry or a social service."

There is general agreement that new criteria are needed to determine and measure the performance of nationalized industries. Mr. Singer says the accountants have not yet got to grips with a new method of social accounting, and that necessary for industries in public ownership.

Sir Richard would also like to see the social objectives of nationalized industries quantified and determined by ministers. Once set, he would then like to see them achieved.

He says: "I believe in the total right of the owner to decide what he wants, and in the total right of the manager to decide what the owner wants him to do to achieve it." In that way the man who runs the nationalized industries might be happy with their jobs.

Concluded

And a partridge on a postage stamp: The Post Office's Christmas stamps issue, designed by Mr. David Gentleman, Camden Town, London, and on sale on November 23, features the gifts of the traditional carol, "The Twelve Days of Christmas". The partridge and its pear tree appear on the 9p stamp; the 11 other gifts, from turtle down to leaping lords, appear on the five 7p stamps.

Warning by minister on fall in vaccination

By a Staff Reporter

A warning that diseases have been almost forgotten may return if the fall in vaccination and immunisation is not reversed was given on Monday by Mr. Kenneth Robinson, Secretary of State for Social Services.

At a seminar in London on vaccination and immunisation he reported a drop from 81 per cent to 75 per cent in the number of children vaccinated against polio, tetanus and diphtheria, and from 79 per cent to "a miserable" 39 per cent for whooping cough.

Yet since diphtheria immunisation had begun, the level of the disease in Britain has fallen from 50,000 cases and nearly 3,000 deaths a year during the war to fewer than 10 cases and no deaths last year. Polio, which has fallen in a similar way, and whooping cough from 90,000 cases and 85 deaths in 1956 to fewer than 4,000 cases and four deaths in 1976.

"The public assume that these diseases are a thing of the past, and this is a dangerous belief," he said. "What could happen has been shown by the resurgence of polio in the present year, which has produced 14 cases in nine months. There is a fear, we do not know how well founded, of a big increase in whooping cough this winter."

A campaign about the risk of these diseases, especially from tetanus vaccine, had had a significant effect. The risk of this was remote.

Oxford seeking ban over a dictionary

A spelling dictionary produced by Pergamon Press Ltd incorporating the name "Oxford" in the title threatens to take advantage of the good will of the "Oxford English Dictionary". Mr. Justice Goffman was told in the High Court yesterday.

Mr. Michael Burke-Gaffney QC, for Oxford University, sought a temporary injunction against Pergamon Press, a London company, which has produced a dictionary, the "Oxford English Dictionary", to stop them using the word.

Mr. Burke-Gaffney said it is one of the worst "Oxford" is a mark of distinction. Although the university does not own the word, it has a special relationship with it. The university's good will is a valuable asset. The case, which is being tried in the High Court, is being heard by Mr. Justice Goffman.

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Hospital unions seek inquiry into complaints

From Ronald Kershaw

The principal trade unions at Barnsley's new £12m hospital decided at a joint meeting yesterday to call for an independent inquiry into alleged shortcomings in the running of the hospital.

Only the National and Local Government Officers' Association dissociated itself from the decision. The other unions, including the National Union of Public Employees, the Confederation of Health Service Employees, and the General and Municipal Workers' Union will call separately for an inquiry through their regional and national offices.

Complaints about an alleged shortage of surgical instruments in operating theatres and inefficient heating and ventilation in theatres have been made by senior surgeons. They have also said that order for instruments had been forgotten.

Barnsley Area Health Authority had agreed that about six hundred instruments were still required, though it has been denied that ordering instruments had been forgotten. Heating and ventilation difficulties were said to be due to "teething troubles".

Mr. Jack Wilde, of the G.M.W.U., who convened yesterday's meeting, said that the complaints raised by the surgeons had led to the discussion of matters of discontent. "We are alarmed at the situation of cash allocation which may have been applied in the wrong areas," he said.

Open University dismissal move

The council of the Open University decided yesterday to appoint an independent authority to determine whether there is a case for the dismissal of Mr. Tom O'Connell, a press officer, who has been involved with the controversial Paedophile Information Exchange.

The council also recommended that Mr. O'Connell's suspension, which began three weeks ago, should be lifted while the inquiry goes on.

Mr Benn says students are going with Labour

By David Walker, of The Times Higher Education Supplement

Young people are returning to the mainstream of politics and joining the Labour Party, Mr. Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, said yesterday when he launched a recruitment campaign for the National Organization of Labour Students.

At Transport House, Mr. Benn spoke of an impressive growth in Labour support among universities and college students. The basis of the party's appeal was the explanation it gave for unemployment and its solution

Tribunals criticized for 'eccentric decisions'

By Our Labour Staff

Eccentric and anomalous decisions by industrial tribunals in unfair dismissal cases are too common, according to Mr. Bowes Egan, an authority on the law relating to dismissal.

He told a conference in London yesterday at which he launched his new book *Dismissals*, that the legal chairman of tribunals played a dominant role.

People might be started to see how the two lay members of a tribunal (one nominated by the TUC, the other by the CBI) were often subservient to the chairman. But they should not be surprised. Little formal training and no information service was provided for tribunal members by the TUC, and the CBI gave no real training or advice to its nominees.

There had been hundreds of complaints by bewildered personnel and industrial relations

officials who had been striving to discover some pattern by reading case reports.

Mr. Egan argued that fears about dismissal rules were largely based on ignorance. More than £10,000 could be awarded to an individual employee by an industrial tribunal. A single employer might face a bill for hundreds of thousands of pounds where dismissed employees were paid redundancy by many people to lose their jobs without proper consultation.

"Employers must not be fearful of the rules," he said. "Nor should they adopt defensive legalistic stances. A clear understanding of the basic principles, combined with meticulous application of appropriate internal procedures, will mean that likelihood of court action recedes."

Dismissals (New Commercial Publishing Co., 4 St John's Terrace, London, W10; £12.50).

Inquiry into baby's death to be in private

The social services inquiry into the death of Simon Peacock, aged seven months, whose parents were jailed for eight years for his manslaughter and ill-treatment, will open next month in private.

Mr. Justice Paine at Norwich Crown Court, described it as "a crime that makes the blood run cold" and called for a public inquiry into what happened after the boy, who had been in the care of Suffolk Area Health Authority, moved with his parents, Colin Peacock, aged 23, and Christina Peacock, aged 22, to Soham, Cambridgeshire.

The inquiry, which will probably sit in Cambridge, will be chaired by Mr. Arthur Lamb, of Derby, welfare coordinator for Norfolk-Royce.

Other members will be Miss Betty Willis, a child health nurse from Devon, and Miss Mary Hartnoll, divisional director of social services for Reading.

The panel will look into the services made available to the Peacocks, and the communications between the authorities involved, and submit a report for publication.

Ulster offer of £3,500 'disgusting'

Mrs. Anne Maguire, whose three children were killed by an IRA man's escape car, has rejected the Government's offer of £3,500 compensation for her personal injuries. It was disclosed yesterday.

Mrs. Maguire is a sister of Miss Mairead Corrigan, who, with Mrs. Betty Williams, founded the Northern Ireland Peace Movement after the children's deaths. It was announced on Monday that the two women had been awarded the 1976 Nobel Peace Prize of £77,000.

Mrs. Maguire, who emigrated with her husband to New Zealand after the deaths 14 months ago, said on BBC radio yesterday: "I am utterly disgusted with the offer and I am obviously going to fight it. I have broken up my home, lost my children and they have the cheek to offer me £3,500. She added that she intended to take the issue to court."

The Northern Ireland Office said the offer was made to Mrs. Maguire for her own injuries and not for the deaths of the children.

A friend of Mrs. Maguire in New Zealand said: "She has lost her children, then her home and now she is trying to settle in a strange country. She feels the Government could act in a more humane manner and increase their offer of compensation."

Mrs. Margaret Corrigan, mother of the sisters, described the offer as "a low and mean sum."

Threat by Irish police alleged in death inquiry

From Craig Seton, Dublin

Irish police officers threatened to return a man to British paratroopers or The Special Air Service Regiment if he did not appear at a court to answer the murder of Captain Robert Nairac, who disappeared while operating armed and in civilian clothes in Northern Ireland, it was alleged at the Special Criminal Court in Dublin yesterday.

The allegation was made by Mr. Patrick MacEntee, for the defence of Liam Townsend, aged 24, of Meigh, Co. Armagh, who is accused of murdering Captain Nairac on or about May 15. He pleaded not guilty to the charge and to four others of possessing a revolver, an automatic pistol and ammunition with intent to endanger life.

The prosecution has alleged that Captain Nairac was abducted from outside the Three Steps pub in Drumahaire, Co. Armagh, by several men. He was said to have been taken south of the border to Ravensdale Wood, and shot in the head. His body has never been found.

Sergeant Owen Corrigan, a Garda officer at Dundalk, in the republic, said that he and a colleague questioned Mr. Townsend for six and a half hours on May 28, and then for a further two and a quarter hours.

Sergeant Corrigan said Mr. Townsend repeatedly denied killing Captain Nairac, and said he had been drinking at two public houses in Dundalk on the night of May 14, when Captain Nairac is alleged to have been kidnapped.

Cross-examined by Mr. MacEntee, Sergeant Corrigan said several people in custody in Northern Ireland had implicated Mr. Townsend.

He denied a suggestion that Mr. Townsend was told that he would be handed back to the SAS or paratroopers if he did not "come clean", and that he could easily be taken back by helicopter.

Michael King, a member of the Garda, of Dundalk, said he had known Mr. Townsend for several years and during that time he had never seen him with a gun. He said he should have known something about Captain Nairac's disappearance "because of his rank in the Provisional IRA".

Mr. Townsend, he said, denied knowing anything about Captain Nairac or that he held any position "in that organization". The trial continues today.

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Drug squad to take men from uniformed branch

By Our Home Affairs Reporter

Officers from the uniformed branch of the Metropolitan Police are being recruited directly into the drug squad as part of the reorganization of the squad.

The men will work in plain clothes, and interviewing for the squad began this week. Scotland Yard says there is no intention of making big changes in the squad. However, there are suggestions that half the squad may eventually come from uniformed sources.

Last summer the head of the squad was replaced with a senior officer from the uniformed branch. The new recruiting policy is said to reflect the intentions of Mr. David McNee, the commissioner, to create greater mobility between uniformed and CID branches.

In the past year the squad has pursued a successful drive against Chinese heroin trafficking in London but that has recently been offset by allegations concerning the loss of 900lb of seized cannabis.

Some officers have been suspended and the complaints investigation bureau at Scotland Yard is investigating the allegations.

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IRA man says three men and girl are innocent of public house bombings

By Our Home Affairs Reporter

Three members of the Balcombe Street gang, Mr. O'Connell, aged 24, Edward Butler, aged 27, and Henry Duggan, aged 23, with Brendan Dowd, who is serving a life sentence for terrorist activities, have claimed to be responsible for the public house bombings.

O'Connell, Mr. Butler and Mr. Duggan are also serving life imprisonment.

Mr. O'Connell said the two Guildford bombs were made by himself, Mr. Dowd and a third man whom he refused to identify. They worked in their room at Waldemar Avenue, in north London, and taped 10 sticks of gelignite into parcels and attached pocket-watch

timers and batteries. Using a hired car, he, Mr. Dowd, the third man and two girls whom he also refused to name, drove to Guildford.

They primed their bombs in a multi-story car park before splitting up. He went to the Seven Stars public house with one of the girls, who carried the bomb in a brown shoulder bag. She dropped it under their bench seat against a wall.

Mr. O'Connell also said he was involved in the Woolwich bombing, taking part in two reconnaissance. He said: "We had decided on an attack from outside as, since the Guildford bombs, they were searching bags as people went in."

On Wednesday, November 6, Mr. Butler, Mr. Duggan, Mr. Dowd and he made the bomb by taping bolts on to a bundle of gelignite.

They did not reach the King's Arms until after 10.30.

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and a partridge on a
postage stamp: The Par
office Christmas stamp
gentleman, designed by Mr. J.
London, and on sale on
November 23, features the
gifts of the traditional
The Twelve Days of
Christmas. The partridge
and its pear tree appear
the 9p stamp; the 11p
gifts, from turtle doves
leaping lord, appear on
five 7p stamps.

Warning by minister on fall in vaccination

A warning that disease
have been shown to be
cause of the fall in vac
and immunisation was
given on the 11th by
the health secretary
of service.
At a seminar in Lon
on vaccination and immu
the minister urged a drop in
cent to 10 per cent in de
of children, who
and diphtheria, and that
unit is a disaster.
The minister urged
the distribution of
the disease in Britain
from 1960, when it was
due to a fall in vac
to 10 per cent. He
said that the fall in
vaccination was a
danger to the health of
the country and that
it was a warning of
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Oxford seekin ban over a dictionary

A leading discus
sionist in the Oxford
University has urged
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ban the use of the
Oxford English
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classroom.
The Oxford English
Dictionary is a
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£400 theft fine

A 25-year-old man
has been fined £400
for the theft of a
motor car. The man
was found guilty of
theft of a motor car
valued at £400.
The man was
found guilty of
theft of a motor car
valued at £400.

Alderney post bill

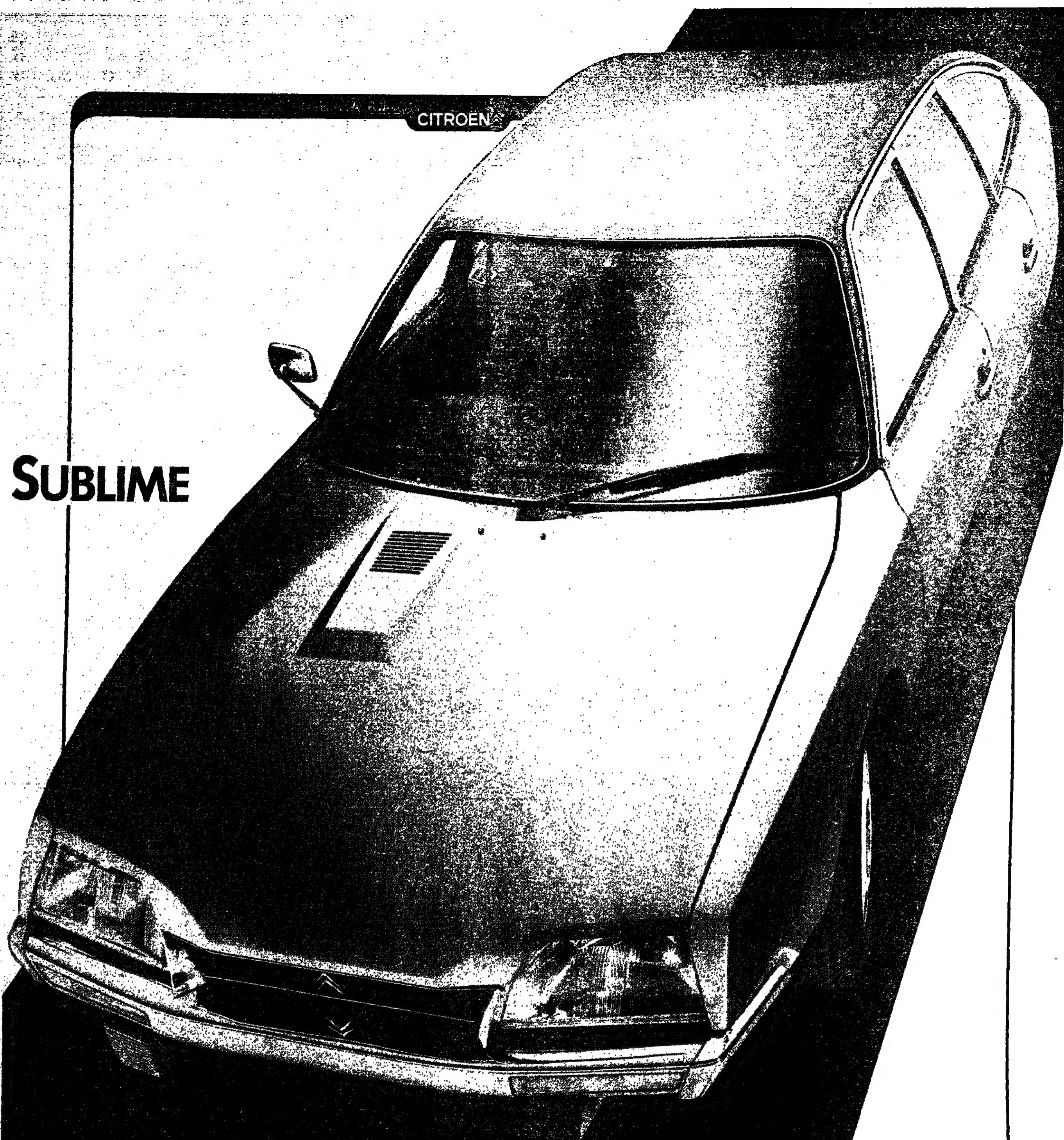
A bill for the
Alderney post has
been introduced in
the States of Alderney.
The bill is intended
to provide for the
collection of postage
on the island of Alderney.
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Citroën CX 2000. The car with the
safest, and most comfortable suspension
system ever designed. VariPower steering.
Power brakes. And creature comforts to
the point of self-indulgence.

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Personal Export, H.M. Forces and Diplomatic schemes and Preferential Finance scheme. Check the Yellow Pages for the name and address of your nearest dealer. Citroën Cars Ltd., Mill Street, Slough SL2 5DE. Tel: Slough 23808.

[illegible]

Unrepentant defence of British attitude to Community's future

From Michael Hornsby
Luxembourg, Oct 11

Mr John Silkin, the Minister of Agriculture, made an unrepentant defence here today of the British view of Europe set out in Mr Callaghan's recent letter to the Labour Party's national executive. The letter drew fire at a meeting of EEC foreign ministers last weekend for its allegedly nationalist overtones.

Speaking to journalists during a break in a meeting of EEC agriculture ministers, Mr Silkin praised the Callaghan letter for its "style, literacy and content" and described it as an "admirable exposition of what ought to be done". No one should have been surprised at the views it contained, since these had long been British policy, he stated.

One of the points in the Callaghan letter which aroused most disquiet last weekend was the suggestion that further enlargement of the EEC would reduce the dangers of an "over-centralized, over-bureaucratized and over-harmonized" Community.

This has been widely interpreted on the Continent to imply that, in British view, enlargement is to be welcomed, at least in part, because it will put a brake on further moves towards econ-

omic and political integration within the EEC.

While not explicitly endorsing this interpretation, Mr Silkin agreed that "federation was never our idea of the future of the Community". The addition of Greece, Spain and Portugal to the Community would introduce a valuable diversity of experience.

There was also no doubt, Mr Silkin said, that, as Mr Callaghan had pointed out in his letter, the EEC's common agricultural policy did need reform.

At today's meeting, the agriculture ministers agreed to extend until the end of the month the present ban on the fishing for Norway pout in waters off the north and east coasts of Scotland, which was due to expire on October 15. The purpose of the ban is to prevent "unavoidable" catches of immature haddock and whiting resulting from the small-mesh nets used in fishing for pout, which is used only for making fishmeal.

The ban, slightly reduced to allow the Faroese to continue fishing for pout. Further extension of the ban will be examined in the context of an overall share-out of fish resources in EEC waters, which is due to be discussed by fisheries ministers in Luxembourg on October 24 and 25.

Czech couple hijack airliner to Frankfurt

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Oct 11

A Czechoslovak engaged couple today hijacked a small Czechoslovak Airlines aircraft with 26 passengers on board and asked for political asylum in West Germany.

Frankfurt police said the couple, both members of the airline's ground staff, had boarded the flight from Karlovy Vary to Prague in uniform and, armed with a revolver and a pistol, demanded that the pilot fly to Munich. For reasons not yet clear, the pilot flew to Frankfurt.

For two hours they negotiated from the aircraft. The plane's electricity supply soon gave out and the hijackers allowed drinks to be brought in as the air conditioning failed. Finally the couple gave themselves up to police. They were identified as Ruzena Viskova, aged 21, and Vlastimil Toupalik, aged 29. They told the authorities they had been engaged for six months and said they had come to West Germany for "political reasons", police said. No other details were given.

The public prosecutor has applied for their arrest on hijacking charges and Czechoslovakia has requested their extradition.

The last Czech hijacker was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment by a West German court in March.



Mr Dayan sits alone (upper left) reading through his speech for the United Nations General Assembly in New York while PLO members talk together a few feet away. The white-haired man is Mr Zuhdi Terzi and Mr Farouk Kaddoumi is on his right

Israeli Cabinet discusses peace talks formula

From Michael Kline
Jerusalem, Oct 11

Mr Moshe Dayan, the Israeli Foreign Minister, returned from New York today to attend a Cabinet meeting which is expected to accept a United States-inspired working paper aimed at providing a formula for a reconvening of the Middle East peace conference in Geneva.

The document was drafted during negotiations between Mr Dayan and President Carter and Mr Vance, the Secretary of State, in Washington last week. It is understood to involve Palestinian representation and collective participation by Arab states in the conference—two aspects which would represent concessions by the Israeli Government.

On his arrival here after addressing the United Nations General Assembly, Mr Dayan described the document as representing "something approaching a joint policy" with the American Government.

Israel has been alarmed by what it regards as a pro-Arab drift in the Carter Administration's Middle East policy, illustrated by the joint United States-Soviet declaration at the beginning of the month which referred to the "legitimate rights" of the Palestinians. Mr Dayan has emphasized that the document makes it clear that Israel will not discuss the prospect of an independent Palestinian state and that it will not accept the participation of representatives of the PLO in the conference.

Several members of the Cabinet were said today to be critical of the document but the overwhelming impression in political circles is that it will be accepted as the best possible document in the circumstances. It is thought, however, that some amendments may be requested.

proaching a joint policy" with the American Government.

On his return Mr Dayan reported first to Mr Begin, the Prime Minister, who went home today after 11 days in hospital where he received treatment for pericarditis, an inflammation of the heart lining.

The Prime Minister looked pale and weak as he left hospital and told journalists that although his doctors had agreed to his chairing tonight's Cabinet meeting he would continue to rest at home for a few more days.

His doctors described as "uter nonsense" reports that the 64-year-old Israeli leader was suffering from a serious heart condition that could only be alleviated by open heart surgery.

Our Paris Correspondent writes: Mr Ismail Fahim, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, said at the end of a three-day visit to Israel that the Israelis would go to a reconvened Geneva

peace conference, "whether they want to or not."

He also said that Mr Dayan's demand that the working paper be revised showed that Israel could be no solution to the Middle East problem without a solution to the Palestinian political problem.

Egypt, he said, was in favour of the unification of Jordan and a Palestinian state, given certain assurances from Israel. Damascus: Dr Kurr Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, said in an interview published in Al-Bath, organ of the ruling Syrian Baath Party, that the PLO must take part in Geneva peace talks and that the PLO must be represented at the Arab-Israeli conflict without solving the problem of the Palestinians.—UPI

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Callaghan letter criticized

From Philip Webster
Luxembourg, Oct 11

Mr Russell Johnston, Liberal MP for Inverness, today joined the growing chorus of critics of Mr Callaghan's letter to the Labour Party setting out the Government's attitude to the European Community.

Addressing the European Parliament's Liberal group, of which he is vice-president, Mr Johnston said of the Prime Minister's letter: "We must hope it was written with the exclusive policy objective of dissuading the Labour Party conference from reopening arguments settled by the referendum which Labour themselves initiated."

"But if it really represents the British Labour vision of the future of the Community, not only do our Community colleagues have every right to ask why we joined but it is also the duty of all in Britain who reject such a view to make their position clear."

Allowances for troops in Germany not to be cut

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

The Government has decided against cutting the local overseas allowances paid to troops in the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR) and RAF Germany, after protests from service families stationed there. A Ministry of Defence spokesman said that the present allowances would remain for a year and the position would then be reviewed.

Allowances are paid to forces stationed abroad to compensate for the difference in the cost of living between Britain and the country in which they are living. They are reviewed every three years after extensive research by the Ministry. Tax-free concessions which servicemen enjoy on drinks, tobacco and cars are taken into account.

They were reduced on April 1, 1975, for the first time in many years, because the cost of living in Britain had risen as a result of inflation.

The Ministry calculated that cuts of between 30 and 40 per cent would now be justified.

But news of the impending cuts leaked out, causing consternation among soldiers and airmen who would have seen their take-home pay reduced by as much as 15 per cent.

The decision to waive reductions for 12 months has been prompted also by widespread discontent among service families after a recent Phase Two pay award, coinciding with increases in food prices and rents.

Allowances paid to service families abroad now cost £160m a year, £120m of which goes to BAOR and RAF Germany. The allowances paid to troops in other parts of the world will not be cut either.

Examples of allowances paid in Germany include: a married man with one child, £12.30 a day; a captain married with one child, £38.11; and a corporal married with one child, £5.37. A single corporal receives £4.32.

Mr Kruger accuses black paper

From Nicholas Ashford
Johannesburg, Oct 11

For the second time in less than four days Mr James Kruger, the Minister of Justice and Police, today called for an urgent meeting of the South African Press Council to consider complaints by him about newspaper references to the death in detention of Mr Steve Biko, the Black Consciousness leader.

Last Friday the Press Council, meeting in a hastily convened late-night session, upheld

two complaints by Mr Kruger against a report in the Rand Daily Mail concerning the circumstances of Mr Biko's death. The Mail announced today that it was considering appealing against the ruling to the South African Supreme Court.

Mr Kruger's latest complaints concern a leading article in The World, which circulates mainly among Johannesburg's 1,500,000 blacks.

The article yesterday, commenting on the Press Council's ruling in the Rand Daily Mail case, was headed: "Kruger ex-

plodes the myth of South Africa's free press."

It was, like comment in most of the press here, extremely critical of the Press Council's decision.

In particular it pointed out, as had other newspapers, that Mr Kruger's complaints had dealt with only technicalities and did not challenge the facts revealed in the Rand Daily Mail article. Those were that Mr Biko's symptoms were not those of a man on hunger strike. He had suffered extensive brain damage and severe bruising.

Truce under strain in Lebanon

From Robert Fisk
Beirut, Oct 11

In spite of the new Lebanese Army do not seem more into southern Lebanon, there are disturbing signs that the truce, which officially ended the fighting in the south 16 days ago, two people were killed today and more others wounded.

By early afternoon, gunfire could still be heard around the southern town of Nabatieh, eight miles from the border with Israel, and several shells could be seen exploding on the slopes west of Palestinian positions at Beaufort Castle.

Yet by nightfall, Lebanese troops had not advanced into the south area, and an unofficial military source said the national Army was still "negotiating" with the various militias in the south.

When the truce came into effect on September 26, Israel said it was "not prepared to withdraw its troops from the south 16 days ago, two people were killed today and more others wounded."

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PARLIAMENT, October 11, 1977

EEC tariff aid to oil-rich states criticized

The European Community must avoid lapsing into a plague of protectionism, said Mr Wilhelm Haferkamp, Vice President of the Commission responsible for external affairs, said.

In 1977 the Community raised its tariff on oil from 3 per cent. For 1978 the volume will rise by only 2.5 per cent from 6,230 million units of account (about £2,595m) to 6,400 million units of account (about £2,670m).

A motion from the Parliament's Committee on Development and Cooperation—later approved—described the community's 1978 offer as modest and showing no significant improvements.

The Committee motion recognized that the Community's proposals had to be fixed at a relatively low level because of persistent difficulties in the economic and social situation, but feared that the planned increase would not be sufficient even to compensate for the monetary depreciation caused by inflation.

It regarded the situation as all the more serious because the system of preferences was a delicate instrument and the Community's development policy.

The Committee welcomed the inclusion of a further 11 processed agricultural products in the preference system but considered this offer inadequate since past experience had shown that the import of these products originating mainly in tropical countries, caused virtually no disturbance on the EEC market.

The motion urged the Commission to open negotiations at the level and a view to amending the list of beneficiary countries, because some developing countries which had reached an adequate level of competitiveness enjoyed an excessive share of preferential trade.

In a report the committee deplored the fact that in the past few years the available preferences had been utilized only to some 60 per cent, and this to the disadvantage of the poorest countries.

The Commission had stressed that it was not possible to intro-

duce substantial improvements under the tariff system, mainly because of the fact that the Community's offer of preferences was based on the principle of non-discrimination. OECD countries would not only participate in granting preferences but make similar efforts.

Under the Commission proposal the new agricultural products eligible for preferential treatment include bananas for slaughter, dried apricots, figs and certain kinds of fruit and vegetables, during the winter season.

The committee conceded in their report that amending the list of countries enjoying preferences was a delicate matter since political considerations were an important factor when it was drawn up. However, it could be revised on the basis of objective economic criteria.

Figures submitted by the Commission over the past few years, the committee felt, showed clearly that the generalized preferences made available to a large group of countries which had already reached a certain economic level, it was important for the Community to adopt a policy with the developing countries.

In the long run a blanket policy of granting generalized preferences to developing countries with high competitiveness could not be tolerated because of its effect on sensitive products and the increasing unemployment in certain sectors.

Miss Colette Flesch (Luxembourg, L), presenting the committee's report, said the Commission's offer of preferences for 1978 was not enough to lead to any considerable increase in exports from the developing countries to the Community.

The system suffered from excessively complicated provisions. It became difficult to understand each year. Mr Jan Broekmans (The Netherlands, Soc) said the resources being made available were not adequate. The Community, with its limited resources, could not support the rest of the world, and compared with

the United States and Japan they were doing quite a lot.

Mr Haferkamp, however, not taking advantage of the facilities being offered. The Community should streamline the administrative machinery surrounding the grant of preferences.

Mr Martin Bangemann (West Germany, L) said the Community should draw a clearer dividing line so that the poorer countries were given greater help than hitherto. The fact that 60 per cent of the facilities were not used was eloquent testimony to the fact that the scheme, however well-intentioned, was not achieving its objectives. It was up to the Commission to do something to change that.

Signor Renato Sandri (Italy, Com) said the aim of the system had been achieved. Industries had gone into the developing countries from outside and had benefited from the system.

Mr Haferkamp, for the parliament's Committee on economic and monetary affairs, said that when the Community had put this into effect, it was a self-confident Community, not doubting its capacity for growth. Now their mind was split three ways. They had a clear idea that they wanted to shelter their industries which were threatened, preserve their faith in free world trade, and fulfil their obligations to the developing world.

Those objectives could be reconciled. They believed in free trade up to a point and beyond that there must be limited protection for limited industries for a limited time.

Mr R. Howell (North Norfolk, C) said he would not be able to vote in favour of the motion and report. It was nothing more than a rubber-stamping exercise which they had too often. They did too many things out of habit.

A list was drawn up at one time and then it went on and on without being considered properly. Why was Romania the only country from the Eastern block to be singled out for special treatment? Did it make sense that oil-rich countries like Kuwait still received benefits although they did not need it? The list of preferences was meaningless. Mr Haferkamp said the Com-

munity's aim with this system was to enable the developing countries to become more self-reliant and to play a more active role as suppliers of raw materials and to become fully fledged partners on the world stage.

It should not (he said) lapse into the error of shifting our difficulties on to the shoulders of others. We should not maintain a protectionist attitude which would then court the risk that more jobs would be lost in another sector.

Mr Haferkamp said no circumstances could justify the risk of letting world trade become bogged down in bureaucracy.

If they were to have protectionist measures they should not be permanent but temporary to enable them to carry out restructuring. They would have to be subject to international rules and procedures.

We must (he said) establish a real partnership with these countries in whom we grant preferences.

He agreed that a review of the beneficiary countries should be carried out but could not contemplate any short term changes. When they had taken decisions in the past on these matters they had not intended to make them permanent.

Mr Haferkamp said they had to remain resolute in their general approach towards protectionism. They should avoid lapsing into the plague of protectionism of the 30s. They could only avoid that if they implemented the measures there must be appropriate rules and procedures.

Mr Haferkamp said he did not know what further steps are open to me other than continuation of my existing approach. I will consider Mr Evans' point. I will talk to my colleagues about it but I cannot give any guarantee.

Mr Richard Mitchell (Southampton, Ichen, Lab) said most of the workers in the road transport industry in Britain, and the trade union which represented them, were opposed to the introduction of the tachograph which they referred to as "the spy in the cab".

Whatever we as individuals think of tachographs (he said) how does the Commission think a directive can be enforced when the workers concerned are opposed to it?

Mr Burke said he was aware of the reluctance of some trade union interests to facilitate the early implementation of the regulation. He had taken that into account in his approach.

Illness ruled out as cause of Mrs Broz's absence

From Tessa Trevisan
Belgrade, Oct 11

Rumours that Mrs Jovanka Broz, President Tito's wife, is ill, were denied today by a Foreign Ministry spokesman, adding to speculation that her prolonged disappearance from public life has a political significance.

Rumours have been circulating in Belgrade about the unexplained absence from all public functions of Mrs Broz for several months. She did not accompany the President on his long tour of the Soviet Union, North Korea and China and she was not at the airport when her husband returned.

Moreover, the Yugoslavs recently informed the French Government that Mrs Broz would not be with the President on his state visit to France, which begins tomorrow. Nor will she travel with him on the visit he will make to Portugal immediately after leaving Paris.

Mrs Broz has been accompanying her husband on all his foreign tours for the past 20 years, and the Foreign Office spokesman made it clear that it was the President's own decision not to take her along.

The spokesman said that Mrs Broz was living in the President's private residence. However, since his return from China, President Tito has been rather conspicuously absent from his Belgrade home and has performed his official functions in his hunting lodge at Karadordjevo.

It is being suggested that people, some of them highly placed politicians, who did not enjoy Mrs Broz's confidence, were denied access to the President. It is also being suggested that she was able to influence appointments and dismissals among President Tito's entourage.

Mr Broz's absence from public life has a political significance.

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Civil servants to work the land

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Mrs Broz has been accompanying her husband on all his foreign tours for the past 20 years, and the Foreign Office spokesman made it clear that it was the President's own decision not to take her along.

The spokesman said that Mrs Broz was living in the President's private residence. However, since his return from China, President Tito has been rather conspicuously absent from his Belgrade home and has performed his official functions in his hunting lodge at Karadordjevo.

It is being suggested that people, some of them highly placed politicians, who did not enjoy Mrs Broz's confidence, were denied access to the President. It is also being suggested that she was able to influence appointments and dismissals among President Tito's entourage.

Mr Broz's absence from public life has a political significance.

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Drug runner jailed for 46 years in Thai clampdown

From Our Correspondent
Bangkok, Oct 11

A Japanese drug trafficker has had his prison sentence increased from 12 to 46 years, one of the longest jail terms imposed by a Thai court for a drug offence.

Mr H. Yoshino, aged 36, was originally sentenced to 12 years for possessing 340.5 grams of heroin and attempting to smuggle it out of the country in April, 1975. But the prosecution appealed against this sentence to the higher court.

Another Japanese Mr F. Tsuji, who was arrested with Mr Yoshino, had his sentence reduced from 10 years and eight months to eight years.

The court found that Mr Yoshino was a trafficker, whereas there was no evidence to suggest that Mr Tsuji was involved in selling the drug.

This is the latest example of Thailand's determination to have a serious crackdown on drug trafficking in the country.

On October 28, the trial of a 24-year-old Briton, Miss Rita Nightingale, will be resumed here. She is charged with possessing 3.5 kilograms of heroin which she took on March 19 last, intending to sell it as a hard drug. She was arrested while waiting to board a flight to Paris.

Miss Nightingale, denies all the charges. She says that she was under pressure on her part to carry out the transaction.

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Nigerian leader begins visit to US

David Cross, Nigerian leader, today began his visit to Washington. He is the first Nigerian leader to visit the United States since the country's independence in 1960. Mr. Cross is expected to meet with President Carter and other top officials. He will also be addressing a joint session of Congress.

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OVERSEAS

Russians accused of breaching postal convention by interrupting mail services to US

From Richard Davy and Desha Trevisan, Belgrade, Oct. 11. The United States today accused the Soviet Union of breaching the Universal Postal Convention as well as the Helsinki agreement of 1975 by interrupting mail between the two countries.

Professor Joyce Hughes of Northwestern University in Illinois, a member of the American delegation to the conference reviewing the Helsinki agreement, said that the United States saw "with deep regret" a continuing pattern of disrespect for the pledges we have all made.

With this speech the conference approaches the sensitive area of specific, it was the first direct criticism of named countries for breaching the Helsinki agreement.

"When letters do not pass freely between members of the same family, some living in one country and some in another, the process of family reunification is obstructed, not facilitated," she said.

When a publisher in New York cannot correspond directly with a literary adviser or author in Moscow, she said, citing the Helsinki text, "contacts and cooperation among persons active in the field of culture" are frustrated not increased.

And when an American friend is unable to obtain delivery of a subscription to National Geographic Magazine for a Soviet schoolboy or a copy of the World Almanac for a teacher in Czechoslovakia, "the flow of information is choked, not widened."

These were actual cases, Professor Hughes said. "These are facts and we intend to address them forthrightly and with candour because we believe that a thorough review demands such candour and straight talk."

Human rights, she said, were not under domestic jurisdiction alone. "If the basic human rights of every citizen of every nation are not observed there can be no lasting peace."

Today's debate began to form the lines of argument likely to dominate the coming weeks. The Western states have firmly established their determination to discuss the internal affairs of other states. Several today resumed protests about violations of human rights.

So far the east European countries have declined only the foreign policy, not the internal affairs, of Western countries, showing the limits within which they believe the debate should be conducted.

Mr. Bhutto, former Prime Minister of Pakistan, was charged before the High Court today with conspiracy to murder a political rival in an incident which resulted in the death of the man's father.

Mr. Bhutto, whose earlier trial was cancelled by the High Court two days ago, was present in court along with four other accused who belonged to the Federal Security Force, described by a government counsel as the former Prime Minister's "Mafia".

According to the prosecution, Mr. Bhutto instructed Mr. Masud Mahmud, former director general of the Federal Security Force, to have a man killed.

In November, 1974, three members of the Federal Security Force opened fire on a car driven by Mr. Kasuri in an attempt to kill him.

Mr. Kasuri, an MP who defected from Mr. Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party, had been making violent attacks on him in the National Assembly.

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Mr Bhutto on trial over death plot

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Taking the intellectual road to tragedy and terrorism

John Mendelson, Labour MP for Penistone, contributes this week's guest column.

Any traveller passing through the German Federal Republic and Berlin must be concerned about the potentially serious effect the recent wave of terrorism might have upon the development of parliamentary democracy in Germany.

Equally, the existence of so many terrorist groups throughout the world and the newly revived theoretical debate on terrorism must lead all those concerned with the principles of freedom and democratic government to a re-examination of the historic place of violence in political development.

If one starts with John Locke's famous justification of revolution, one will find first of all a whole series of philosophical arguments brought forward in defence of the right of revolution in certain circumstances. Common to these arguments are normally two factors: first, revolution is justified against an oppressive, dictatorial regime which does not allow for change, improvement and development by means of political persuasion.

Second, that the revolution will be organized by groups of like-minded citizens, acting collectively for clearly defined, morally justified purposes. It will be seen immediately that many of the individual terrorists working in small groups today do not fall within the definitions so far advanced.

Most of them operate within communities where the possibilities of peaceful change by democratic action and persuasion certainly do exist or are in the process of being fully developed. It therefore is all the more important to provide an analysis of the motives and ideological considerations which have led a number of mostly young people to engage in terrorist activities.

The element of tragedy enters into any such analysis because a considerable number of the young people involved, though by no means all of them, are talented and idealistic and often convinced that they are acting as the agents of history. This ideological purpose is of the greatest significance in any attempted explanation of the common rational and emotional attitudes which inspire many students who are associated with acts of violence.

In Germany, in Japan, in Ireland and in other countries, there have been terrorist movements of the right and of the left in different periods of history, and sometimes at the same time. It is therefore not surprising that one will often find a hotch-potch of ideologies providing the basis of thought and action for many groups of activists.

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had started off somewhere under the influence of Marx, to abandon the Marxist element of their philosophy and to look around for new agents of historic change to bring about the radical new society of which they were dreaming. Having abandoned the working class as the main engine of history in this century they looked around for a replacement. The students were then discovered to be this replacement and they were encouraged to "provoke" history into such faster movement towards a new goal.

It would, of course, be absurd to hold teachers of this doctrine directly responsible for any acts of terrorism, and many of them have since made quite clear their abhorrence of individual violence and murder. But the intellectual dangers of the development here traced had been foreseen many years ago. They were foreseen in the fascinating debates on the political left throughout the nineteenth century, particularly the debates involving the Russian socialists in London and in Switzerland and the famous disagreement between Marx and Bakunin within the organization of the First International.

The first debate was conducted in the middle of the nineteenth century between Alexander Herzen, the intellectual leader of the Russian radicals in exile, and some of the anarchists residing mainly in Switzerland. In the second debate, Marx fought a bitter battle against Bakunin, in which Bakunin was severely defeated.

In these historic exchanges, all the main elements surrounding the discussion of terrorism today were already present. The advocates of individual terror showed their impatience with history, insisted on the importance of the strong-willed individual as an agent of history, belittled the importance of the "masses" and devalued the cult of revolutionary heroism. Their opponents on the other hand, strongly emphasized the necessity of collective mass action, opposed the cult of individual violence and bitterly denounced the anarchists as a dangerous obstacle to organized political development.

One of the most interesting elements among the arguments advanced by Marx and Herzen was, as they emphasized, the political and personal unreliability of the terrorist groups and of their individual members. And equally one must not, of course, underestimate that alongside the young idealists there are considerable numbers of dropouts, cranks and thoroughly immoral elements within the new current terrorist organizations.

What attracts them, as it did in the nineteenth century is their ability to dispose of large funds without any proper control or accountability. What they find even more exciting is the sense of power and importance given to them by the possession of the gun. Both these factors are certainly present in Northern Ireland today, as has been pointed out by some of the best informed observers.

All this leads to two major conclusions which may perhaps provide common ground for many who are concerned about the future of our political institutions. In the first place, the democratic state must certainly defend itself and take appropriate legal action against terrorism, but such action must always be subject to the rule of law, and must not allow any however much we abhor their action, to be regarded as outside the rule of law. And second, and equally important, the apparently dull and humdrum activities of ordinary political life in a parliamentary democracy must be emphasized again in their true historic importance.

Somehow, we must find new ways and means of convincing the young generation of the importance and value of ordered political change and development. This requires both a spirit of tolerance towards the aspirations of young people and a deep appreciation of their immaturity with our complacency and self-satisfaction with our material success.

Times Newspapers 1977

In brief

Dissident freed from Lubyanka

Moscow, Oct. 11.—Mr. Alexander Podrabinek, a Moscow dissident, has been freed from Lubyanka prison after being accused of psychiatric abuse.

Mr. Podrabinek, a 23-year-old engineer, was seized yesterday evening and bundled into a car.

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Cosmonauts return to space centre inquiry

Moscow, Oct. 11.—The two Soyuz 25 cosmonauts returned yesterday to the space centre after a mission lasting 17 days.

The cosmonauts, Vladimir Kovalyov and Yuriy Rumyantsev, were greeted by officials at the space centre.

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Rebels kill 33 soldiers in Philippines

Manila, Oct. 11.—Muslim rebels today killed 33 soldiers in a battle in the Philippines.

The rebels, who are fighting for independence, were victorious in the battle.

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Hawks join in Washington debate on Panama pacts

Washington, Oct. 11.—Some of America's most revered, retired super-hawks have declared their support for the Panama Canal treaties.

The hawk group, which includes several former military leaders, believes the treaties are in the country's best interests.

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Peace hope in Australian power strike

Melbourne, Oct. 11.—A settlement of the Australian power strike is hoped for by the end of the week.

The strike, which has caused significant disruption, is expected to end soon.

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Flotsam and jetsam of the past



In a lovely fantasy in the *Essays of Elia* Charles Lamb imagined the souls of all dead writers assembled in some celestial library. So what happens to the souls of mariners and their ships when they die? The tides pick their bones and gnaw their timbers in whispers. But until the Last Trump signals the draining of the Seven Seas, the records that are the soul of seafaring are preserved in the archive of the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich. This repository is not widely known, except by historians specializing in the mysteries of the sea, because the public erroneously associates museums largely with display. Of course, the National Maritime Museum has its superb paintings, fine ship models and a great treasury of maritime weapons, relics, and antiquities. But down in the basement its archive contains a mile and a quarter of shelving that holds the soul of deep seafaring: the log books, personal diaries, business records, letterbooks, orderbooks, crew lists, and correspondence that are all that survive of the men and the ships that were the source of Great Britain's greatness.

These records are largely terra incognita to the outside world. They are about to become a discovered Newfoundland, because the museum is going to publish the first catalogue-guide to its manuscripts. The first volume, this December, will detail the personal collections: the papers of Chafeld, Collingwood, Howe, Nelson, Richmond, Hood, and all the other nautical names that ring like ships' bells through our extraordinary history. A later volume will describe all the other manuscripts.

The particular treasures in the care of Dr. Roger Knight, the custodian of the archive, which are about to be made public, are remarkable: Nelson's first letter written with his left hand, apologizing for the scrawl (he used this excuse more than once); a captured document with Hitler's insanely modernistic signature authorizing the invasion of England; a letter of Henry VIII ordering linen cloth for the hallowing of his stupendous warship, *Henri Grace A Dieu*. Here be a charterparty (the legal agreement between the owner of a vessel and the shipper) of 1322; one of the three extant signatures of Henry the Navigator; series of satisfactorily idiosyncratic letters from such noisy nautical characters as Beatty and Fisher; a poem written by Queen Elizabeth I on the defeat of the Armada; and the last record, spotted with rust, of that great Victorian mystery, the tragic Franklin expedition to the Arctic.

But the strength of the collection lies not only in such spectacular stars, but in its comprehensive series of documents of the sea. It holds long strings of deposited public records of the Admiralty and Navy Board and of the Royal Dockyards. Here those interested can find the archives of famous shipping firms such as P & O, Shaw Savill, and the British India Company; the older original surveys of Lloyd's Register of Shipping; a 10 per cent sample of the crew lists from the Registrar General of Shipping and Seamen; the records of societies such as the Marine Society, the Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785, and the Red Ensign Club; Captain Cook's journals; Papyrus letterbooks; and the personal papers of sea officers, merchant mariners, maritime historians, able seamen, and all the other jolly sailor boys. Only those who have its dappery comprehend the mystery of the sea. The fleet and jetsam of the ancient mystery survive at Greenwich.

The fleets that fought at Trafalgar and the men that opened up the Indies—two long gone, turned to salt water. Their souls live on in the archive of the National Maritime Museum, which is about to open the eyes of British historians and the public to the secrets of the sea.

Philip Howard

Guarded US optimism on Salt accord

From Our Correspondent, Geneva, Oct. 11. Mr. Paul Warneke, the head of the American delegation to the talks on the Salt II accord, was "cautiously optimistic" about a Salt II agreement with the Soviet Union within a few months.

Mr. Warneke said that while the new agreement will be in accordance with the provisions of the 1974 Vladivostok agreement, it will be hoped to reduce the number of strategic weapons.

A ceiling of 2,400 strategic nuclear delivery vehicles for each side was established at Vladivostok, of which 1,320 could be launchers for missiles with multiple independently targeted warheads.

Mr. Warneke, addressing a news conference, pointed out that if the United States was continuing the development of its new MX intercontinental missile, the Russians were not only deploying a fourth-generation missile, they were working on a fifth-generation one.

Owen communiqué says détente irreversible

Moscow, Oct. 11.—The following is the full text of the Anglo-Soviet joint communiqué on the visit to Moscow by Dr. David Owen, the British Foreign Secretary, as supplied by Reuters.

On the invitation of the Soviet Government, Dr. David Owen, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom, paid an official visit to the Soviet Union from October 9 to 11, 1977.

Dr. Owen was received by Mr. Leonid Brezhnev, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union, and had a discussion with him.

Talks were held between Mr. A. Gromyko, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Soviet Union, and Dr. Owen, which took place in a businesslike and friendly atmosphere, a constructive discussion of the further development of bilateral relations and of a number of international problems affecting the world situation.

On consultations are an important element of their cooperation, both in bilateral relations and in international affairs, and they declared their desire further to develop such contacts. They reaffirmed their intention to promote on a mutually advantageous basis the increase of trade and the development of scientific, technological, cultural and other exchanges between their two countries.

During the discussions of international issues, the two sides agreed that non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and the maintenance of peace and for developing peaceful cooperation between the two sides are of the greatest importance.

Both sides noted with satisfaction the progress made in recent years in promoting the relaxation of international tensions. In confirming their commitment to a policy of détente, they declared their determination to contribute to its extension to all areas of the world, and to encouraging better and closer contacts and understanding between their peoples, and thus to making progress in détente irreversible.

The two sides agreed on a first priority task, the carrying out of effective measures aimed at ending the arms race and at disarmament. They agreed that the early conclusion of a further agreement on the limitation of strategic arms would be of the greatest importance. They also agreed on the need for practical steps in the direction of preventing the risk of nuclear war and resolving such issues as

a comprehensive nuclear test ban, renunciation of the development of new types of weapons, mutual destruction, prohibition of chemical weapons and the reduction of military expenditures of states. The two sides expressed satisfaction in connection with the signing on October 10, 1977, of the Anglo-Soviet agreement on the prevention of accidental nuclear war.

The two sides reaffirmed their support for the treaty on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and emphasized their mutual determination to work in cooperation with other states for the strengthening of the regime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. They noted with satisfaction the expansion of their cooperation in the consistent implementation of the principles laid down in the Anglo-Soviet declaration on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The hope was expressed that the forthcoming special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament and an eventual subsequent world disarmament conference will be able to assure tangible steps forward in resolving pressing disarmament problems.

The two sides expressed their readiness to do all in their power to promote the success of the Vienna talks on mutual reductions of armed forces and armaments and associated measures in Central Europe, on the basis of observance of the principle of the undiminished security of either side.

Dr. Owen and Mr. Gromyko devoted particular attention to the

SPORT

Football

England put emphasis on shooting and the low cross in training

From Norman Fox, Football Correspondent

England have scored a total of four goals in their last three matches, a record for the team since the 1966 World Cup. The team's attack has been the main focus of the coaching staff's attention, with a particular emphasis on shooting and the low cross. The team's defence has been solid, but the attack has been the main focus of the coaching staff's attention, with a particular emphasis on shooting and the low cross.

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Italians under pressure

Turin, Oct. 11.—Italy will field the team who beat Finland 3-0 in Helsinki last June in the return World Cup qualifier. The team's attack has been the main focus of the coaching staff's attention, with a particular emphasis on shooting and the low cross.

Results and FA Cup draw

Third division
Barnet 1, Brentford 1
Barnet 1, Brentford 1
Barnet 1, Brentford 1

Boxing

Aird airs punches as well as views on Dunn

Billy Aird, the perennial British heavyweight champion, came out of retirement to fight a former world champion, Tony Danza, in a six-round bout at the Royal Albert Hall, London, last night.

Aird produced no shocks or surprises, but gave his armory of punches a good airing.

Tennis

Surgeon's son clinically removes David Lloyd

Michael Appleton, the 18-year-old son of a surgeon, clinically removed David Lloyd from the tennis world yesterday.

Yachting

Adventure tenth to arrive

Capetown, Oct. 11.—The final five of the 15 yachts competing in the Round the World Race, sponsored by Whitbread, are expected to arrive here late tonight or tomorrow.

Squash rackets

Easter races through opening match

Adelaide, Oct. 11.—John Easter, of Britain, took only 15 minutes to win his first round match in the second world open squash championship here tonight.

Hockey

Under-21 caps train with party for India

Two players from England's under-21 hockey team, Gregory and Mallin, find themselves among the elders this weekend.

Rugby Union

Eagles spread their wings for second victory of the tour

By Peter West, Rugby Correspondent
Cambridge 18, US Eagles 20
The Eagles won their second victory of the tour today one at Grange Road yesterday when, in front of a fine crowd and on a near perfect afternoon for rugby, they beat Cambridge 18-20.

It was a most enjoyable contest which, I suspect, left both teams not dissatisfied. The Americans, after coming from behind and then threatening to dominate, must have been thankful in the end to last the course.

Today's football fixtures

World Cup, qualifying matches

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
Luxembourg v England (7.15)
Northern Ireland v Netherlands (at Windsor Park, Belfast, 3.0)
Republic of Ireland v Bulgaria (at Lansdowne Road, Dublin, 4.30)
Wales v Scotland (at Liverpool)

UEFA Under-21 tournament

England v Finland (at Hull)
Third division
Sheff. City v Sheffield Wednesday

Rugby League

First round
Leeds v Rochdale Hornets (7.50)

Golf

Homework pays off for Statham in class

Nick Statham, a 29-year-old Londoner, took a surprise half-way lead in the European tournament players division qualifying school at Fossilis yesterday.

Statham remembered some sage advice from his old boss, Sydney Scott, to think his way round the tight, tree-lined Fossilis courses. He never used a driver and was on the path to the clubhouse with a birdie on 25th at the fourth followed by a 21st putt for an eagle three at the 18th hole.



Hughes: Captain of experience and England. Masson: Captain of inexperience and Scotland.

Welsh match their spirit against an archetypal British team

By Gerald Sinsch

At first glance the case for Scotland to beat Wales in tonight's World Cup match at Anfield, Liverpool (7.30) is overwhelming. Second and third chances do little to change that view. Most for man comparison of the teams, current form and past records all point to a victory that would guarantee Scotland a place in next year's finals, leaving the remaining match in the group—Czechoslovakia v Wales on November 16—an academic exercise.

In the past 30 years Scotland have lost to Wales only three times, most recently in 1964. Last month's 3-1 victory over the Czechs in the first division of the Scottish League has left Scotland's players as confident as their supporters are bold. Even in their darkest moments the Scots have never been inhibited by modern tactics or their own ability. Tonight's confidence may be a key factor.

The absence of McGrain and Ritchie emphasizes the depth of resources available to Alister MacLeod, Scotland's manager. Donachie at full back, and Macari, in midfield, have played prominent roles in the achievements of the two Manchester clubs in recent seasons. Both have international experience which goes back half a dozen years.

Both can be looked upon as replacements rather than reserves. Macari, in particular, has been a mainstay of Scotland's defence. He has never looked out of his depth there. His ability to find time and room to hold the ball, and the accuracy of his passing, are qualities which allow others to be at their best—a useful asset in a leader.

In the past 18 months Scotland have evolved as an archetypal British team. The defence is built round McQueen, a huge centre half who dominates the air. The full back is solid in defence and quick in support. The midfield is genuinely creative as well as industrious. In front a fast winger, Buchanan, provides splendid crosses, Jordan, brave and tall, meets them, and Dalgleish is the coolest finisher in Britain.

Against this formidable combination Wales have to rely on spirit and unselfish teamwork in a side containing five players from outside the British Isles. The improvement since Michael Smith became manager must not be underrated. Even so, the Welsh record in recent years has been poor. They have been beaten by Scotland in three of their last four matches.

Wales will need to be at their best to win. They will need to be at their best to win. They will need to be at their best to win.

They may find, too, that close marking will drive Masson deep into his own territory, where he is inevitably less effective. And, remembering the way Rough waded helplessly as Gadjusek's shot drilled past him at Hampden, they may feel that goalkeeping remains an Achilles heel for Scotland. Reason says that Scotland should win comfortably, but the odds are against them.

Scotland A. Rough (Parish): T. J. Jardine (Rangers), T. Forsyth (Rangers), C. McQueen (Leeds U), W. Donachie (Manchester U), J. Macari (Manchester U), D. Masson (Queen's Park Rangers), A. Hardison (Manchester City), K. Dalgleish (Liverpool), J. Jordan (Leeds U), W. Johnson (West Bromwich Albion). Substitutes: A. Stewart (Leeds U), M. Buchan (Manchester U), A. Connolly (Nottingham Forest), J. Harper (Aberdeen), D. Johnston (Rangers).

Wales: D. Davies (Wrexham); R. Thomas (Derby County), D. Roberts (Hull C), L. Phillips (Aston Villa), G. Jones (Liverpool), J. Hughes (Birmingham), J. Yorath (Cardiff), P. Sayer (Cardiff), C. J. Toshack (Liverpool), M. Thomas (Preston), J. Hughes (Cardiff), L. Tibbo (Ipswich), D. Jones (Norwich), C. N. Dancy (Preston), A. Curtis (Swansea C).

Group 7
Scotland 3, Wales 1, Czechoslovakia 3, England 1, Finland 0, Luxembourg 0.
Other matches: Czechoslovakia v Wales (November 16).

Group 8
Netherlands 4, Belgium 3, Iceland 1, England 1, Ireland 0, Bulgaria 0.
Other matches: Netherlands v Belgium (Oct. 20), N. Ireland v Belgium (Nov. 16).

Group 9
Netherlands 4, Belgium 3, Iceland 1, England 1, Ireland 0, Bulgaria 0.
Other matches: Netherlands v Belgium (Oct. 20), N. Ireland v Belgium (Nov. 16).

Group 10
Netherlands 4, Belgium 3, Iceland 1, England 1, Ireland 0, Bulgaria 0.
Other matches: Netherlands v Belgium (Oct. 20), N. Ireland v Belgium (Nov. 16).

Rugby Union

Eagles spread their wings for second victory of the tour

By Peter West, Rugby Correspondent
Cambridge 18, US Eagles 20
The Eagles won their second victory of the tour today one at Grange Road yesterday when, in front of a fine crowd and on a near perfect afternoon for rugby, they beat Cambridge 18-20.

It was a most enjoyable contest which, I suspect, left both teams not dissatisfied. The Americans, after coming from behind and then threatening to dominate, must have been thankful in the end to last the course.

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Eagle on the wing: Duncanson outflanks the Cambridge defence for a try

Mair finds his range as Glasgow win

Glasgow beat Anglo-Scots in their annual rugby match at Highbury yesterday. Glasgow beat Anglo-Scots in their annual rugby match at Highbury yesterday.

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SPORT

Motor racing

Indianapolis cars will race at Brands Hatch and Silverstone

By John Blyden

Indianapolis-style racing cars will be seen in action at Brands Hatch and Silverstone next year as a result of an agreement just concluded between Motor Circuit Developments Ltd and the United States Automobile Club.

A full complement of 20 single-seaters, which have turbo-charged engines producing up to 850 brake horsepower (nearly twice that of a grand prix car) and are capable of reaching speeds in excess of 220 mph around the Indianapolis speedway, will be flown over for two British races, each of which will be held on a 1.6-mile circuit.

The granting of championship status for the two races, thereby ensuring that America's leading USAC drivers will be taking part, has been a crucial factor in negotiations which MCD's managing director, John Webb, has been having with leading American race organisers and officials for more than two years.

The United States "Race Exporting" arrangement is exclusive to Britain, and prize money and transportation will amount to £500,000 for the two events, which will take place on September 30 (Silverstone) and October 7 (Brands Hatch). More detailed plans for the two events, which are to be organized jointly by the USA, the BRDC and the BRSCC, will be announced later this year.

The arrangement represents a double bonus for British racing enthusiasts, firstly in enabling them to have their only sight of these spectacularly powerful cars outside of the USA, and secondly in being given two bites of the cherry on consecutive weekends, as a result of the collaboration between the two organisations of the two circuits which share the British Grand Prix on alternate years and which there-

fore have always been considered to be healthy rivals. The two races should more than plug the gap caused by the decision of the Formula One Constructors' Association to restrict their members to one race per year on each of Britain's big circuits—the grand prix being held at one and a non-championship race at the other.

The last occasion on which Indianapolis cars were seen in Europe was in 1953, when the second of two speed races was staged on the old banked track at Monza, Italy, but those were the days of the traditional front-engined roadsters, which had neither the manoeuvrability nor the roadholding to compete successfully on a contemporary-style circuit. Since those days, European design influence has played a large part in the dramatic advances in performance which have been achieved in USAC racing, and given road track competitors the cars which have been capable of setting outright lap records at Silverstone and Brands Hatch.

When James Hunt, of Britain, flew into London yesterday he said he knew the officials of reports that he had been fined £1,500 for punching an official and causing a race to be stopped at the USA, the BRDC and the BRSCC, will be announced later this year.

Apparently unaware of the alleged fine, he said: "I have had some official reprimand. It was an accident, but one tends to react in those situations. I had the race won and then I had a serious accident—my car was completely destroyed. I was waved across the track and then the marshal started pulling me and tugging at my clothes. Obviously, one tends to react."

Show jumping

General Blacker reviews Moscow assault troops

By Pamela Macgregor Morris

Major-General Sir Cecil Blacker, chairman of the selection committee of the British Show Jumping Association, told me last week that he had sat in the stands during the European championships in Vienna in June and put together his first thoughts on the matter surrounding the selection of our next Olympic team. This season our Nations Cup team have been composed of nine professionals and eight amateurs.

The first step in the long term plan for success in Moscow in 1980 is the drawing up of a list of 25 amateurs. Some of these seem to have only the most forlorn hope of getting to Russia, but the hard core of a team which could win a medal is there. The list, in alphabetical order, includes Sir Cecil Blacker, David Bowen, Martin Barker, John Brown, Elizabeth Edgar, Rowland Fernyhough, Graham Fletcher, Tim Grubb, Deborah Jones, Sally Mapleson, Adrian Marsh, Tony Newbery, Christopher Parker, Captain Mark Phillips, Peter Rotherham, Nicholas Skelton, Robert Smith, at 16, the youngest on the list, Stephen Vallance, John Whitaker, Michael Whitaker and Ant Wilson (née Faulkner). Nine of these riders are British.

The biggest problem is the shortage of good horses. Sir Cecil went on: "We may have to force the present arrangements and make an effort to encourage owners and sponsors to come forward to acquire them. Every effort should be made during the next 18 months to bring together combinations of horse and rider which can win Olympic medals for Great Britain. There is a wealth of talent among riders in this country but potential Olympic horses are both scarce and expensive."

The committee are asking the owners of top class horses to give the BSJA the opportunity to consider these horses in the country before considering any offers to sell them to foreign buyers. The riders have been selected on form and on their promise for the future. They are extremely close and both decisions in Minter's favour were body disputed.

On the same Wembley programme, Minter's opponent, the European light-middleweight title against Joel Bonazette, of France. The contest needed a few weeks after losing the European title to Graham Tonna, of France, with a cut forehead being the official challenger, Bunny Sterlings, has decided to stand down. Minter receives his chance only weeks after losing the European title to Graham Tonna, of France, with a cut forehead being the official challenger, Bunny Sterlings, has decided to stand down. Minter receives his chance only weeks after losing the European title to Graham Tonna, of France, with a cut forehead being the official challenger, Bunny Sterlings, has decided to stand down.

Boxing

Finnegan to meet Minter for British title again

By Kevin Finnegan

Kevin Finnegan will defend his British middleweight championship against Alan Minter at the Empire Pool, Wembley, on November 8. It is the third time the two have met, with Finnegan still looking for a win. Minter receives his chance only weeks after losing the European title to Graham Tonna, of France, with a cut forehead being the official challenger, Bunny Sterlings, has decided to stand down. Minter receives his chance only weeks after losing the European title to Graham Tonna, of France, with a cut forehead being the official challenger, Bunny Sterlings, has decided to stand down.

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Olympic Games

TV finance remains big obstacle

By John Blyden

Geneva, Oct. 11.—The European television networks and the organising committee for the 1980 Winter Olympic Games at Lake Placid are still several millions of dollars away from reaching an agreement over rights for televising the games. But both sides were understood to have revised their claims as deals were expected to continue in the United States in the next few weeks.

This was the feeling here today after yesterday's meeting between the organising committee and the European broadcasting networks.

The Lake Placid organizers originally asked for \$10m and the Europeans offered \$12m. Eurovision said that the Americans had slightly lowered their claim and the Europeans had slightly improved their offer but the gap was still "considerable".

Bannister earns prize for services to sport

By John Blyden

Cologne, Oct. 10.—Sir Roger Bannister today became the first Briton to be awarded the Hans-Heinrich Siebert prize for his services to sport. The prize is given by the Olympic Council of Germany, a society composed of athletes who have taken part in the Olympic Games.

Sir Roger, who in 1954 became the first man to run a mile in under four minutes, was presented with a statue of a discus thrower by Hans Lohk, a former Olympic rowing champion. Since last year Sir Roger has been director of the World Sports Council.

Other personalities who have won the award include President Urho Kekkonen, of Finland, and the late Avery Brundage, who was for many years the president of the International Olympic Committee.—Reuter.

Appointments Vacant also on page 23

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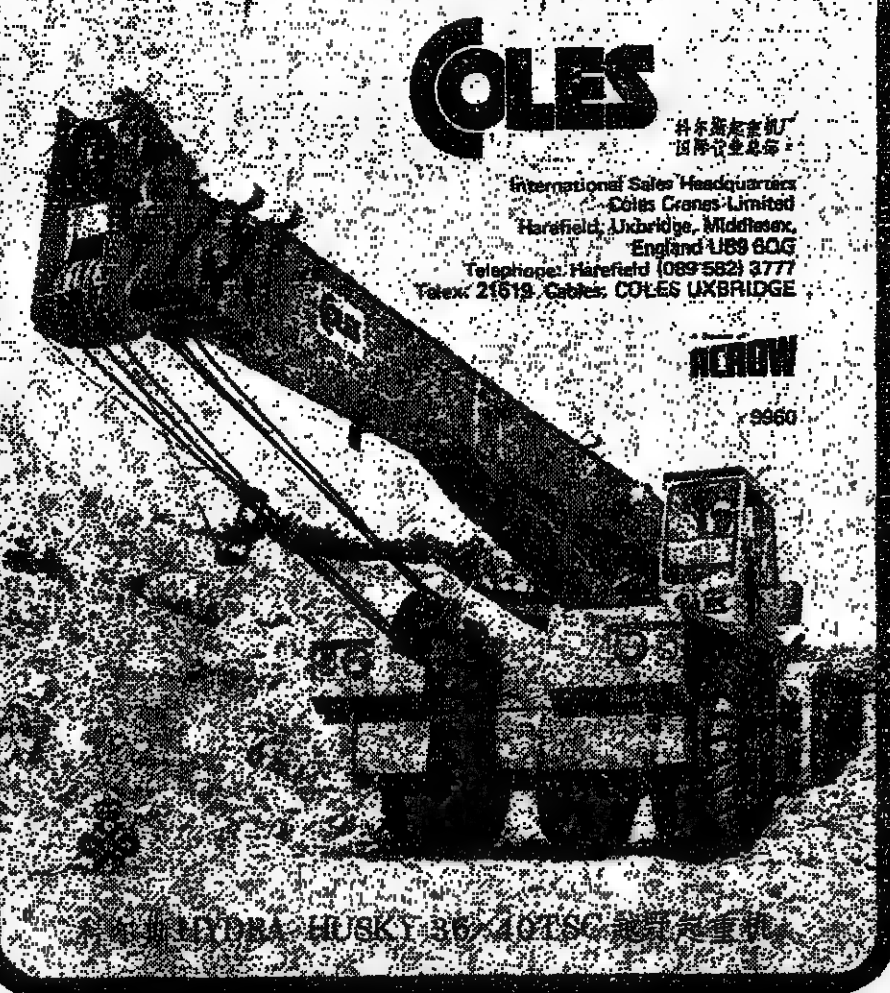
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Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
1990	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
1991	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
1992	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
1993	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
1994	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0

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The annual Canton Trade Fair opens on Saturday. Dinah Lee examines the country's economic background and Dick Wilson the prospects for Sino-British trade

Ship of state crosses sea of storms

This month marks both the anniversary of the fall of the discredited Gang of Four leadership in China and the end of the first year of recovery after the 1976 disasters which left the Chinese asking themselves: "Can it get any worse?"

Blow upon blow fell in 1976—the Tien An Men incident in April, serious earthquakes in Peking, Tangshan, Hebei, Yunnan, Szechwan and Kansu. The most violent flood in Honan and Shantung in the past 20 years, droughts in the north and low temperatures and rainy weather in the south, slow production and a general loss of morale—as the Chinese economy reeled in response.

The culmination of confusion came with the overthrow of Mao's wife, Madame Chiang Ching, and her fellow radicals, resulting in a complete reversal of both foreign and domestic economic policy.

In the wake of those events, the Chinese seemed to have welcomed the about-face, and set about trying a more sober truce between production needs and planning and the rigours of "pure ideology."

The power struggle between the "radicals" and the "moderates" had taken its toll on the economy. Many visitors to China from the late 1960s to recent days reported that the Chinese just were not working very hard. Natural disasters aggravated the situation in July, 1976, and relief and repair work put a further strain on transport, energy resources and production.

Since last October, the Chinese have been returning to what the "radicals" did their best to prevent, and what Chou En-lai out-

lined at the National People's Congress in 1974 shortly before his death, a push to modernize agriculture, industry, national defence and technology.

This summer Vice-Chairman Teng Hsiao-ping was repeating at the eleventh Party Congress that China should strive to achieve a modernized economy by the beginning of the next century, and chose the United States as a standard against which China should measure its progress. Between those two statements lay two years of dissension with economics the key issue.

One of the most significant, although seemingly minor, recovery attempts last year was the publication of two documents, from the Chinese Communist Party and the Ministry of Finance respectively. They prescribed that during that month all organs, groups and enterprises were to settle uniformly all accounts and freeze capital according to deposit figures on bank books, so as to alleviate pressure as a result of monetary shortage and supply deficiency.

Additionally, since November 1976, study groups have been successfully instituted in various departments to handle the wage question which arose after the Cultural Revolution. Part of their task is to restore the promotion of apprentices to workers and the subsidization of workers, and to render monetary and material aid to staff and workers with difficult living conditions.

Getting the workers to work is perhaps one of the biggest hurdles on the road to China's land of milk and honey. While



Earthquake shelters built after the 1976 disasters line a Peking road. Many people use them as extensions to their homes.

rose only 5 per cent last year, against 10 per cent the year before.

Emphasis on production and growth does not necessarily mean deviating from a Maoist line, but simply choosing the line that fits the purpose. In a speech recently issued by the State Planning Commission, Mao is quoted as saying: "Will it do to engage only in the struggle for production without scientific experiment? If people only wage the class struggle without carrying out the struggle for production and scientific experiment, yet claim that they support the general line, the claim will eventually prove to be false."

More to the point is the rest of the 1964 quotation, which continues: "The economy's industrial output

New course in trade should benefit Britain

China has made a decisive break from the past in its foreign trade policy. The new leaders, at last consolidated after the death of Mao and the arrest of his favoured radicals, is determined to import a much larger amount of foreign equipment and technology, both to accelerate China's industrial modernization and to buttress its lagging defence capability.

At a national conference on foreign trade a few weeks ago, Mr Yu Chiu-li, the presiding genius over China's petroleum industry and now a key economic planner in the new administration, told foreign trade officials in Peking that "self-reliance has nothing in common with the closed-door policy." He told the men and women in charge of doing business with the outside world that they should "do a still better job of importing advanced technology and equipment."

It is against this background that the British have now organized two extremely important missions to China. The Sino-British Trade Council mission under Lord Nelson of Stafford and The Times conference with Chinese leaders in Peking.

Trade figures may not appear to support this optimism. Two-way trade between Britain and China is stagnant this year, and on the basis of the July figures will not exceed last year's £155m by very much.

Worse still, from the point of view of British industry, is the fact that within this overall stagnation, British exports to China are falling by almost 40 per cent, while British imports from China have increased by about the same proportion.

The fact is that the Chinese have been cutting back heavily on their routine purchases over the past year, to balance their overall trade and finance a much larger import of foodstuffs during a year of disappointing harvest. They have sought to sell more to Britain, while buying less and have been remarkably successful this year.

There have been gratifying exceptions. Vickers sold £5,750,000 worth of aircraft equipment to China in the summer, and there have been some ship sales also. But when it comes to complete industrial plant or very large equipment, British firms are usually outbid by continental or Japanese rivals.

China bought an oil rig from a Norwegian supplier rather than a British. But smaller items of offshore oil equipment are being supplied by British firms, and a mission from Machimpex, the Chinese corporation, is about to come to Britain with the expectation of placing more orders in this sector.

There is indeed a steady flow of missions between the two countries, extending not merely over the whole range of manufacturing goods but also to farming. The British agricultural mission in the spring investi-

gated the ground very thoroughly, and a great deal of follow-up action is being taken after its return. A trade mission from China is being organized next year.

The biggest single category of British exports to China is transport equipment, including ships and aircraft and their components. The second is other kinds of machinery, followed by steel products. Last year £8m worth of iron and steel products went to China, but this year the performance has slumped very badly.

The same applies to the fourth best item of textile yarns, fabrics and fibres. Last year Britain sold more than £10m worth of these, whereas in the first half of this year it barely sold £3m worth. Equally disappointing is the collapse of the scientific instrument market from the £1,500,000 annual level of the past few years to only about one third of that this year.

But officials of the Sino-British Trade Council, as well as individual businessmen following the Chinese market, remain optimistic about the longer term prospects for British exporters.

The present hiatus might last as much as another year, one of them said, "but there is no doubt at all that after that the picture will change radically."

After all the political ups and downs of the Mao years, the new leadership, reflecting a clear mood among the country's elite, is determined to make up for lost time and pursue a serious and sustained programme of economic development, drawing as much as possible on outside supplies of equipment and technology.

Where the political propaganda of recent years concentrated on Marxist doctrine, the present slogans are about achieving the so-called "four modernizations" (of industry, agriculture, defence and science).

For the time being the Chinese are still paying for their import spree of three years ago. Only next year will they be able to resume big orders with foreign suppliers, and while the British may continue to be excluded from the club of complete plant suppliers, they are bound to be drawn on for a wide variety of supporting equipment and knowledge.

Exactly how much the Chinese will spend depends a great deal on their own exports. Things are not helped by the recession in Western markets and by the growing protectionism which keeps out such Chinese products as garments from the British market.

There will not be any magic saviour such as oil. Chinese oil exports are going to be useful but modest. What is expected is an across the board improvement in the supply of manufacturing goods which China is already selling to Britain and other Western markets.

To Britain China is set to sell for the first time more than £100m worth of goods this year. The leading item is foodstuffs, especially tinned and frozen goods, followed by textiles. Other important items are chemicals (including essential oils) and fur.

Speculation continues in London about the possibility of China's borrowing more money in order to boost its imports of British and other Western technology. So far the Chinese have refused to do more than accept the normal deferred payment terms for individual contracts prevalent in the international market place.

Now that China is seen to be discarding its Maoist taboos and taking a strictly pragmatic view of its foreign economic relations, some observers feel that the Bank of China may gradually get into the commercial borrowing business. If it were done, it would be a landmark, as it would be the first time that the Chinese have refused to do more than accept the normal deferred payment terms for individual contracts prevalent in the international market place.

The Chinese can also release gold and silver on to the world market as they did at the beginning of this year, but such tactics cannot be used very frequently. In the long-run China's buying power will be determined by its capacity to export its own products—and the willingness of Western countries to absorb them.

The exhibitions of Chinese goods of the kind which we have recently seen at the Ideal Home Exhibition in London and at the Birmingham Trade Centre are likely to be more often in the future.

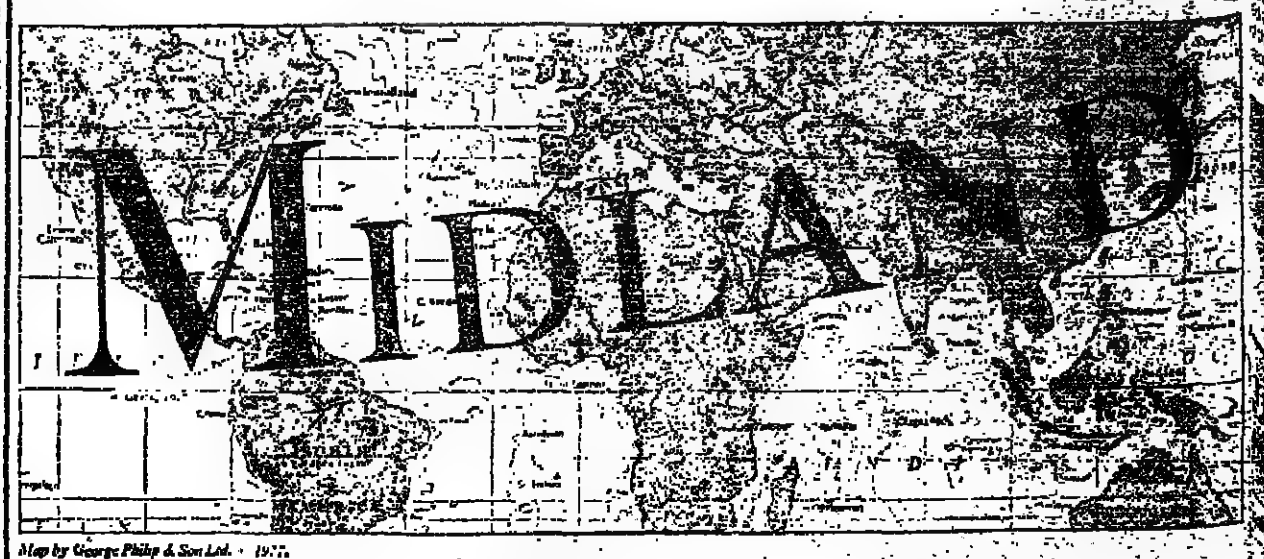
The orders at the beginning of this year for British goods, including the technology, made them under licence to the city of Shian, will be about £400m, some of which has already been shipped.

Dick Wilson, editor of China Quarterly.

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**The National Bank
of Australasia Limited**

by David Bonavia

The past year has seen the start of the most fundamental changes in Chinese social policy since the upheavals of 1966. Most of the alleged reforms of the Cultural Revolution are being reconsidered after the death of Mao Tse-tung and the purge of his former supporters.

Mao and the adherents of the Cultural Revolution believed that socialism of the Marxist type could be made to work only if it was pushed to its logical extreme.

The majority of those wielding power in the Chinese leadership, who had been cowed by Mao's continued survival, fundamentally disagreed with that idea, and now they feel strong enough to put their own ideas into effect.

Mao believed that socialism was indivisible. Either China would accept the "new-born things" of his Cultural Revolution, or it would revert to "revisionism" and eventually capitalism.

Only time will prove whether he was right or wrong. What is beyond dispute is that the policies he considered sacred are being rapidly modified or abandoned.

Spread of general education more important

In education, for example, Mao believed that academic standards were much less important than the spreading of a certain level of general education in the country, especially the rural areas. To implement that policy, he was prepared to make great sacrifices in China's progress towards scientific and technological development, to say nothing of cultural affairs.

Two years ago, Peking university students were encouraged to spend up to thousands of weeks of their lives in the mountains, and Mr Chou Jen-shan, who was then Minister of Education, and who is said to have been "bounced to death" as a result of the campaign.

The biggest scandal surrounding the Maoist educational policy is the fuss which was raised in the national press in 1974 over the case of a university student in Liaoning province who was praised at the time

for turning in a blank examination paper at his university entrance sitting.

Three years ago that act was proclaimed as "revolutionary". Now it is called a "counter-revolutionary plot". The young man in question is being reviled by name in the national press. It is sufficient discouragement to any future student who might think of doing something similar.

The idea now is to encourage middle-school students to study assiduously and show mastery of their subjects at entrance examinations.

Some youths sent down to work on the communes after school are now making their textbooks with them, in anticipation of university entrance.

That in itself casts doubt over the whole policy of making country boys of those from towns, which was never popular either with the students or their parents. Such "rusticating" was perhaps more a response to unemployment in the cities than a genuine attempt to spread education and knowledge among the peasants.

The peasants were never really enthusiastic about the arrival of pampered young people in their communes, who were considered a drain on available food and a general nuisance.

What the peasants really need is better education, health and birth control services together with the modest chance of being able to send their best and brightest young people to work in the cities, rather than the other way round.

On health, the new administrative policy has been to say nothing about the programme of "barefoot doctors" rather than to condemn it or try to replace it with something else.

One of the most unfortunate remarks thrown back at Teng Hsiao-ping before the radicals unseated him temporarily last year was that he said the "barefoot doctors" must "progress to straw sandals, and then to rubber shoes".

He was, of course, speaking metaphorically since hardly any country doctor or orderly would dream of walking barefoot anyway, except when fording a stream. His point was that the use of medical orderlies with only a few months' formal training could never be seen as more than a temporary substitute, where the radicals regarded it as a reform in its own right.

Social policies once sacred are revised

Another important part of Maoist social policy was to rotate officials and non-manual workers regularly to special rural institutions where they were supposed to grow their own food while studying Marxist classics. That measure was not unpopular among the bureaucrats and educationists, since it was rarely rigorous in its application. But senior scientific research workers might have found it irksome

if it interrupted their work. It will probably wither away over the next few years. During the past 10 or 11 years it was the policy of the leadership to supervise social and political discipline through mass movements, starting with the Red Guards. Their indiscriminate violence, however, probably did more to discredit Maoist social policy than any other single measure. Mention of the Red Guards is now

rarely seen in the Chinese press, and it is not unlikely that the once famous arm-bands will soon disappear from the secondary schools, where the emphasis now is on respecting teachers and working hard. The leaders have also admitted that policy towards China's racial minorities has not been satisfactory in recent years, particularly on the past relegation of the languages and culture of

such peoples as Mongols and Tibetans who live under their rule. In the next few years the hardy expected, but a resurgence of interest in traditional Chinese culture, foreign literature and music, who will not merely be parrot the line of their political masters. A more liberal policy towards intellectuals is also official, assurances of freedom of expression and of artists, writers and scientists two decades.



In China's urban areas, nine women out of ten go to work, leaving their children in nursery schools like this one in Peking.

A townswoman's place is not at home

by Elizabeth Wright

One of Mao Tse-tung's famous dictums is that women hold up half of heaven. But to what extent do Chinese women really carry half the economic, political and social burden in China? Women first gained a degree of economic independence in the 1940s with the introduction of land reform.

For a Chinese woman the Land Reform Law was more cataclysmic than the Marriage Law, although the latter promulgated on May 1, 1950, gave a woman, for the first time in Chinese history, the right to free choice in marriage, the right to divorce, to have custody of her children and to have her own property. But land reform gave a woman her own piece of land and, thus, her economic independence. And with this economic independence came self-respect.

The Government has made every effort to give practical support to enable women to play a productive role in society. In the urban areas (where only about 20 per cent of the population live) 90 per cent of women work. Marriage is never seen as incompatible with a career, and the Chinese express surprise and disapproval at the concept that a woman should consider her family as an obstacle to work.

The Chinese attitude towards childbearing is pragmatic. In China, children are much loved, and wanted by men as well as by women. Every effort is made to facilitate the birth and upbringing of children to enable a woman to resume her place in the economic and social chain as soon as possible after childbirth. Every industrial enterprise has its own crèches and nurseries where a child can be looked after while his mother works.

Even the 10 per cent of urban women who do not work are kept extremely active within the community. Many are retired workers (women retire at 55 on a 70 per cent pension), and the demands on their time and energy are unnumberable. The family is no longer the centre of a woman's loyalty. The state, party, women's organisations, street and neighbourhood work all serve to divide a woman's energies and loyalties.

The street and neighbourhood committees must oversee the operation of local-run schools, factories and clinics; they must help out any family that has particular problems; see that the latest party edicts are put into effect; carry out propaganda on family planning and keep a weather-eye on law and order.

Women in the rural areas enjoy neither the same degree of emancipation nor the same degree of social onus. Childminding tends to take the form of communal baby-sitting, rather than state crèches. Married women tend to look after their families and private plots, except during the busy planting and harvesting seasons, when everyone takes to the fields.

Conservatism is still rampant in the countryside. Parents still want large families, and boys are still much prized. One reason is that a girl generally marries out of her own family into a family in another village, whereas a boy brings his wife into his family, thus providing another able-bodied person. Girls are still taken away from school earlier than boys so that they can help at home, and

there is still condescension towards women among the older generation of rural men.

If a woman succeeds in reaching a position of authority in rural China, with so many obstacles to fight against, one can only admire her tenacity. And the gratifying thing is that there are many such women. These are not just the young, educated, middle-school graduates who are doing their stint of physical labour in the countryside. They are most frequently women from very poor peasant backgrounds, with little education. Such a woman might now be in charge of finance, welfare and education for a commune of 60,000. This is impressive by any standards.

In fact, at every level in China, except the very top echelon (of which more later), whether in factories, communes, government departments, one comes across many women in positions of great authority and responsibility. They are quietly self-confident, knowledgeable and able.

It is on the top rung of the state and party ladders that one sees the female hiatus. There is at present only one woman minister, the sole female representative of the newly-formed Politbureau, and she is only an alternate (or non-voting) member at that. Despite exhortations that party and revolutionary committees should have at least 30 per cent of women members, women form only about 11.5 per cent of the brand new seventh Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party.

One reason for this is undoubtedly that the attitude and behaviour of the now-blackened Chiang Ching has caused a setback to the prospect of women in high places. But an equally probable reason is that the new leadership is more intrinsically conservative in its attitudes than its predecessors. Undoubtedly, traditions that are millennia old die hard, and 25 years do not suffice to change the soul of man or woman. Chinese women will have to have more faith in themselves, and to assert themselves more in other ways than domestic (in which they always had considerable power).

But when one sees girls driving bulldozers, drilling oil-wells and making

machine tools, as well as filling the more traditionally female roles of nurses, textile workers, baby-minders, one realises how great the metamorphosis has already been. Interestingly, although women in China are now doing work traditionally regarded as "male", the converse is not true. When one probes into this, one is told that there are quite

simply some jobs that women are better suited to than men, although, again, the converse is not claimed. As a footnote, one extremely interesting observation is that I have never while in China met a woman over 30 who was unmarried. Plain looks appear to be no drawback, and one becomes increasingly aware that the Chinese attitude to marriage

is less romantic, more pragmatic than our own. Chinese is looking for a partner who will be a mate and workmate, who will be reliable and prove to be a loving and responsible parent. The author is deeply indebted to the Great Britain-China Centre.

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Dead civilizations along the Silk Road

by Peter Hopkirk

Ever since China's ancient Silk Road was rediscovered by Sir Aurel Stein, the pioneer of Central Asian archaeology, in the early years of this century, excavations have been uncovering the secrets of long-dead civilizations along its route. Their most spectacular find so far on this once-busy trade route between China and Europe was the Flying Horse of Kansu, the golden bronze statuette of a winged horse, which was discovered in 1936.

Although nothing as startling as this bronze masterpiece has since come to light, many other important relics of China's rich past have been found in tombs and at oasis sites along the route. These include paintings, silks, manuscripts, bronzes, coins, and official documents and the everyday merchandise of 20 centuries ago.

However, many extremely important finds of earlier years today enrich the collections of the world's great museums. Including the manuscripts from the Caves of the Thousand Buddhas at Tun-huang oasis, a discovery which has been likened to that of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Such losses are a source of some bitterness among present-day Chinese scholars, who feel that archaeologists like Sir Aurel Stein robbed them of the bones of their history. The ancient Silk Road brought China's Han dynasty into contact with the Roman Empire more than a hundred years before the birth of Christ. Before long, silk and other luxuries, including shabaras, from China were being exchanged for Roman gold and other European merchandise. Even up to modern times it has been an important trade route across Asia, also reaching down into India, and measuring 7,000km from end to end.

Over the centuries, a chain of oases, including Kashgar, Karkand, Khotan, Turfan, Tun-huang, Wuwei and Sian, grew up along this perilous route, and not only

merchants' caravans but world-renowned Buddhist pilgrims crossed its dusty passes and deserts. This busy traffic resulted in a cross-fertilization of ideas and influences clearly recognizable in many of the works of art uncovered by archaeologists. New discoveries in this region, as well as elsewhere in China, are regularly published in the Chinese-language journal *Archaeology*. They are the Swedish traveller Sven Hedin; the German archaeologist Albert von Leoni; and the French scholar Paul Pelliot.

With the opening of the sea routes to China the once-prosperous oases began to decline, some vanishing for centuries. Others, however, continued to flourish and it is especially around towns such as Turfan, Wuwei and Sian that excavators are reaping a rich harvest from China's past. "So far we have merely scratched the surface," Mr Hsia Nai, director of China's Institute of Archaeology, and an archaeologist of

It is no secret among Western specialists of the region that a very careful and detailed index of Chinese antiquities in foreign hands is kept in Peking. It is not unknown, London dealers say, for members of the cultural staff of the Chinese Embassy to attend important sales of their antiquities at Sotheby's and Christie's to keep an eye on prices, and on the market generally. Their greatest loss is probably the manuscripts and scrolls from the Caves of the Thousand Buddhas which Stein removed in 1906 and on a subsequent visit. He had heard rumours that a huge collection of such treasures, hidden in a sealed chamber there, had come to light.

By means of patience, persuasion and good luck—the Chinese would say shameless trickery—he was able to bring away with him to Kashmir 29 cases of manuscripts, paintings and textiles, no small achievement across the bleak wastes and ice-clad passes of Chinese Turkestan. It cost him, through frostbite, the toes of his right foot and very nearly his life. Altogether this discovery is regarded as one of the most important ever made anywhere. It included the world's first known printed book (by means of a block), dating from AD 868, and a wealth of other treasures of great art historical importance. The following year, the French archaeologist Paul Pelliot removed many more

items from Tun-huang, which has been ascribed, because of its famous grottoes, as "an art gallery in the desert". Finally the Chinese authorities of the day ordered all the remaining manuscripts removed to Peking. This was done by ox-cart and a good deal of pilfering took place on the way. Five years later Stein reported being offered whole bundles of Tang scrolls when he revisited Tun-huang.

Tun-huang is firmly closed to foreigners today, as I discovered when I asked if I might be allowed to visit this once remote oasis. Mr Hsia Nai told me that work was still going on there, including extensive cataloguing of the remaining treasures. Also active on the Silk Road at this time was the German archaeologist Loeb. The museum in Berlin built specially to house his finds was, however, entirely destroyed together with its contents during the Second World War by Allied bombing. Chinese scholars point to this important loss if one attempts to argue that the antiquities and manuscripts brought back by Stein and his fellow archaeologists were, in fact, "rescued" by them for posterity. When I asked Mr Hsia Nai whether China might not one day—like Greece and the Elgin Marbles—demand the return of its "lost" treasures, he answered: "Perhaps, but at the appropriate time."

Successful surgery to Flying Horse

The Flying Horse of Kansu, back in China after its successful tour of the West, has been undergoing delicate surgery in Peking. Bronze conservationists have successfully repaired a hairline fracture, detected with the aid of X-rays, which threatened the less, which bears the whole weight of the Han masterpiece. A brilliantly convincing copy stands in its place in the Museum of Chinese History overlooking Peking's Tien An Men square. Only someone very familiar with the original would spot the difference. In fact, the copy is labelled "reproduction" but few visitors can read Chinese.

Being conducted round the museum, I noticed that the guide who explained the exhibits to them failed to mention that the horse was not the original. Nobody seemed to realize that they were looking at a copy. They must have been somewhat puzzled when the following day they visited the Forbidden City. For there, among the archaeological treasures displayed in the Hall of Preserving Harmony, was another Flying Horse, apparently identical.

In fact they are just two of a small number of copies made for distribution to the most important museums, all as close to the original in size, shape and spirit as possible. It is a task which could possibly be achieved by modern bronze technology.

Another important equestrian find has been made since the discovery of the Flying Horse eight years ago. Archaeologists, working at Lia-ping, in Shensi province, in 1974 uncovered a large number of life-size terracotta horses in a vast, China dynasty tomb. One of these is on exhibition in the Forbidden City, with two life-size figures of men from the same tomb, and another can be seen in the Museum of Chinese History. They represent an earlier type of horse once native to China, smaller and slower than the type depicted by the unknown sculptor who made the Flying Horse. The former type is known as

Projevalsky's horse after the nineteenth-century Russian explorer who found examples of this species still living in China. The Flying Horse sculpture depicts the large and swift Fergana variety which the Chinese imported from what is now Russian Turkestan to replace their own slower breed. The new horse revolutionised cavalry tactics. Both types are now extinct in China, although there are said to be a few examples of Projevalsky's horse still to be found wild in Mongolia. There are also a number in captivity in zoos outside China.

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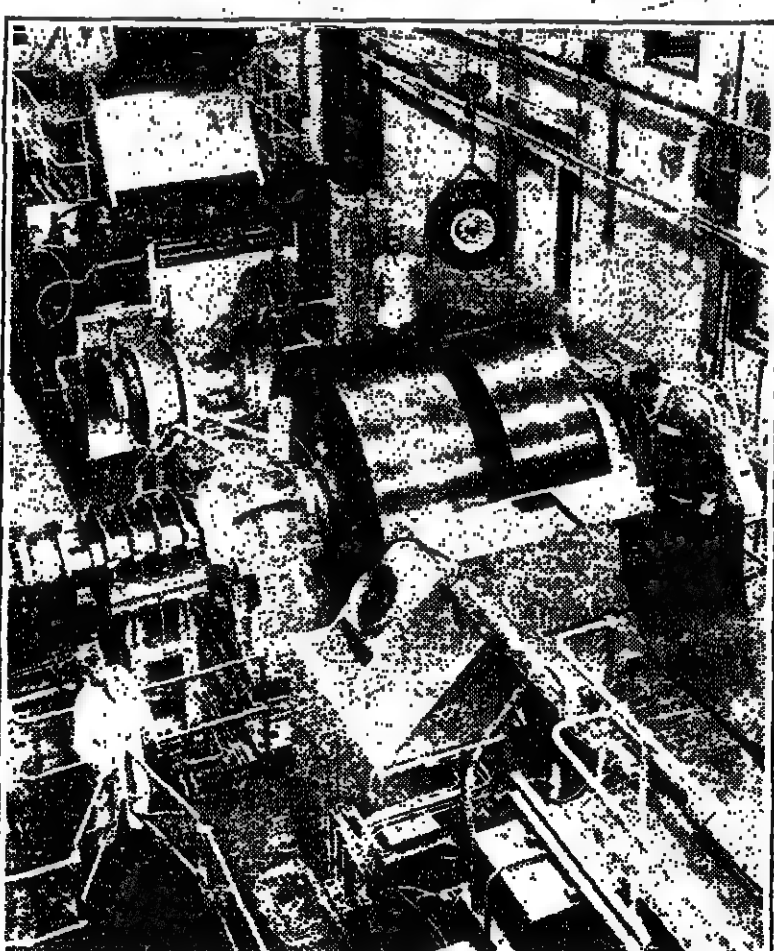


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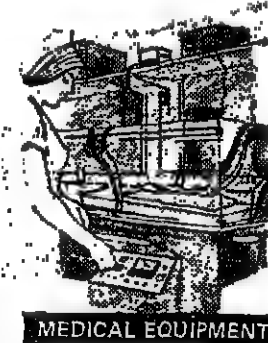


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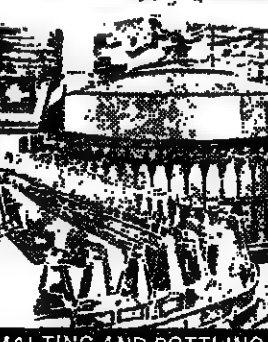
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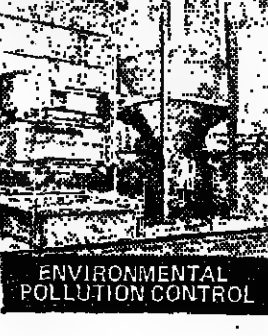
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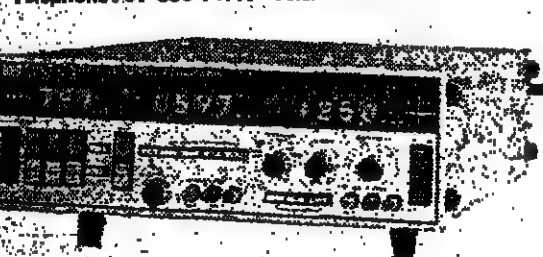
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Steps of the red footed booby

by a Special Correspondent

Pheasant is typical of British, not Chinese, cuisine yet anyone who has recently devoured such a bird is probably indebted to China: the common ring-necked pheasant comes from Chinese stock introduced in the mid-eighteenth century. When, however, it is partly for other reasons. A recent book on traditional medicine credits its flesh, fresh or dried, with tonic effects and strengthening yang (the male principle of the yin-yang duality)—and no doubt the reason why pheasants are in Norman Douglas's *Lovers' Cookbook*.

This practical bent to Chinese interest in birds is seen in many other examples. Cormorants are still used for fishing in the Paracel Islands, follow the red-footed booby to find shoals of fish; and numbers of birds are exported as cage-birds or for food. In China's predominantly agricultural economy birds are studied mainly for their effect on crops, orchards and forests. For a time in the mid-1950s there was a vigorous attack on sparrows as part of the campaign to eliminate the "four pests": rats, flies, mosquitoes and sparrows. Sparrows were later removed from the list (being replaced by bedbugs) partly because they eat harmful insects as well as grain.

The value of birds in the biological control of insect and rodent pests is now given greater recognition. A popular pamphlet describing 26 common species classes only two—house sparrow and yellow-breasted bunting—as harmful. There is also a programme to increase the numbers of "beneficial" birds (for example, redstart, woodpecker, thrush, shrike) through the provision of nest boxes, especially in forests in north and north-east China. There is also a less utilitarian side to consider. Delight in the songs and plumages of birds has deep roots in popular tradition and birds provide some of the commonest motifs of the long-legged crane (usually the rare *grus japonensis*) as a symbol of longevity, the mandarin duck as an image of conjugal fidelity, and throughout centuries the sight and call of the wild goose has brought tears to the traveller reminded of distant friends and relatives who may have seen the same bird in flight.

One of the loveliest of Chinese legends tells of the spinning girl and the coward who meet only once a year when, if the morning is clear on the seventh day of the seventh lunar month, magpies form a bridge to

let them cross the Heavenly River (the Milky Way).

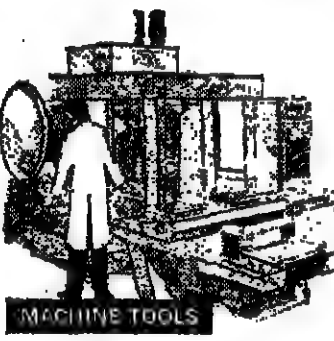
However, birds are less a part of daily life than they used to be. The songbirds markets have almost disappeared, probably because of socialist construction. Nevertheless, in a few places one can occasionally see songbirds such as the swallows (a thrush with a white eye-stripe) being taken by their owners for a walk to visit with other cagebirds in parks or terraces. Birds also retain a place in revolutionary imagery. A poem by Chen Yi, the late Foreign Minister, about anti-colonialism in Africa concluded with the line: "Eagles and kindred fliers regain their forest home."

October 28 marks the centenary of the death of one of the best British field naturalists in China, Samuel Robert Swinhoe (1836-79), who produced a steady flow of papers from his 20 years in China and who gave the first modern scientific descriptions of about 51 species and 104 subspecies of Chinese birds. He was proposed as a Fellow of the Royal Society by Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace, another great nineteenth century biologist, paid warm tributes to the value of his work in Taiwan.

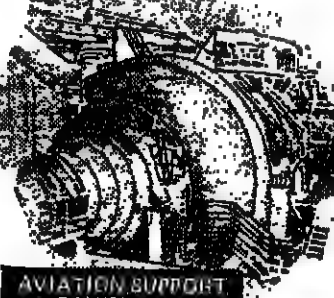
China now has its own naturalists engaged in the task of building up a comprehensive picture of wild-life. There are still remote areas which need to be properly surveyed and the earlier work of people like Swinhoe was mostly confined to the coastal areas of China and trading centres on the main waterways. The fruits of much recent Chinese ornithological research are contained in a splendid *Distributional List of Chinese Birds* (revised edition) by Dr Cheng Tso-hsin which has recently become available abroad (copies from Guangzhou Bookshop, 9 Newport Place, London, price £48).

Much is added to the knowledge of species also found in Europe: since China is mostly in the Palaearctic region it has representatives of 16 of the one (Hemiprocne) of the families of birds found in Europe.

By contrast, about 15 Chinese families, mostly Oriolus—are not found in Europe (for example barbets, drongos, white-eyes, trogons), while many Palaearctic families are represented in China by a far greater variety of species (for example, darters, sunbirds, flycatchers and phainopepla). For those fascinated by China or by birds, the publication of this book is a vivid reminder of the richness of China's avifauna and of the place which natural history has in present Chinese scientific research.



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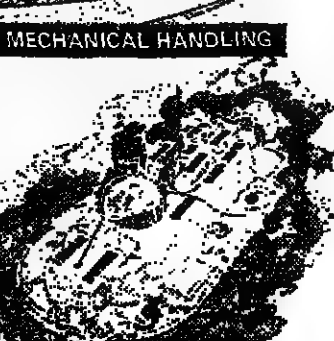
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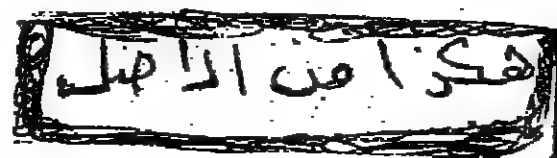
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With more foreign tourists visiting China than for many years, Peter Hopkirk looks at some of the cities open to foreigners as well as at ways of getting there and shopping around in Peking

Guests from the West made welcome

More and more doors in China are opening to foreign visitors every year. At the latest count, 34 cities and towns are officially open to tourists. But for the earth quake which devastated Tangshan, closing it to visitors, the total would have been 35.

Several other cities, like Hubei in Inner Mongolia, and Urumchi in the extreme west, are occasionally opened to privileged visitors. Not long ago a party of ambassadors sailed through the Yangtze gorges, one of China's great beauty spots, while more recently three western reporters were allowed to visit Lhasa, the Tibetan capital.

Tibet, however, despite the misleading title of Miss Han Suyin's latest book - *Lhasa, the Open City* - is still firmly out of bounds to all but the most privileged. By own request while in Peking to be allowed to visit Lhasa, argued on the title of this officially-approved book, was turned down firmly, as was my application to see how the revolution was changing the lives of people in Chinese Turkestan.

With China's great interior still closed to tourists almost all the cities on the tourist run are concentrated along the southern seaboard. Those travelling in groups (and that means most people) cannot pick and choose where they want to go.

Their itinerary will have been negotiated beforehand with the China Travel Service by their tour operator. The itineraries of those (few) travelling singly are dependent upon there being a seat on the aircraft or train and an empty bed in what is probably the only hotel.

One traveller's "top 10" is not necessarily everyone's, but the following cities and towns are rated highly by most people who have been there. Do not expect merely to be shown the beauty spots and works of art in any of these places, but also communes, schools, factories and other institutions. A visit to China is a study-tour rather than a holiday, but few people are disappointed whenever their political persuasion.

At the top of everybody's list is Peking, one of the world's great and most beautiful capitals. One requires a minimum of four to five days in which to see its highlights. These include the Great Wall, the (once) Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven, the Summer Palace, the Ming Tombs, the archaeological museum, as well as the city's many shops and excellent restaurants.

The newest addition to the Peking scene is the huge, 40-pillared mausoleum of Chairman Mao, whose remains lie preserved for posterity in a sarcophagus cut from solid crystal.

Shanghai - once the "sin city" of the East - will be on many itineraries. Like

with a magnificent collection of early bronzes.

Of the remaining 32 towns open to tourists, perhaps Kwangtung (Guangdong) by the Chinese) with its amazing landscape of "drunken" hills, claims first place for the sheer beauty of its surroundings. High also on any list must come Taiwan (Jinmen) on the Yellow River, with its lakes, islands, little boats, natural springs and mountains.

Another favourite among foreign visitors is Hangzhou (Hangchow), celebrated for its beautiful West Lake, fringed by hills on three sides. This former capital, the setting for many Chinese novels and poems, is famous

for its brocade silk which many visitors bring away with them.

Not far from Shanghai is Soochow (Suzhou), famed for its magnificent gardens. Of the four finest gardens in China, two are to be found there. Soochow is picture-book China, with its narrow streets and charming waterways. Also a former capital, it is famous for its double-sided embroidery, other handicrafts and yellow inkwashes.

Another beauty spot is the 3,000-year-old city of Wuxi (Wu). Today a leading industrial city, it overlooks an enchanting lake studded with little islands and junks, with a guest house set right

on the lake shore.

Sian (Xi'an), another 3,000-year-old former capital, will be on many visitors' itineraries. It was near there that archaeologists recently discovered an ancient tomb containing some 6,000 life-size sculptures of men and horses. The bulk of these terracotta still lie underground, although examples can be seen in Peking.

There are two excellent museums at Sian. One, in an old Confucian monastery, contains magnificent tomb silks and embroideries. Many treasures as well as relics, showing the history of the Chinese written language, seen in a specially built museum. Changsha is also famous for the beautiful countryside surrounding it.

Near Sian is the town of Loyang (Luoyang), yet another former capital, with its celebrated Buddhist caves - one of the three greatest examples in China.

The town of Changsha, in southern China, is the site of another great archaeological find. In 1972 the perfectly preserved body of a young Han dynasty princess was discovered in a magnificent tomb surrounded by more than a thousand burial objects, including superb silks and embroideries. Many of these, as well as the mummified corpse, can be seen in a specially built museum. Changsha is also famous for the beautiful countryside surrounding it.

Tourists Shanghaied in comfort

To visit China today you need a minimum of £95 in your pocket. That is the price of the cheapest - and shortest - of the several package tours available from London.

Offering a total of eight nights in China - six in Peking, two in Shanghai - it has been arranged by the newest recruit to the China market - Thomson Holidays.

The first two groups leave next month, with two further tours scheduled for December. Thomson's expect to send eight more parties, of up to 50 people each, to Peking and Shanghai during the first four months of next year. Staying overnight in Bucharest, and flying by the Romanian airline Tarom, each group will be away for 11 nights, two of which will be spent on the aircraft.

For those with more time at their disposal, four other British tour operators offer more ambitious trips, with up to 19 nights in China. The standard economy-class return air fare is about £1,000, and these packages include almost everything while one is in China, they are not as expensive as they look.

Study China, the only one of the four to concentrate solely on China, hopes to arrange four groups, each of about 24 people, this coming year. Its last tour, of four, in 1977 leaves later

this month, spending 18 nights in China and one in Hongkong. The inclusive price is £950. Mr Cecil Kline, the managing director, whom I met in Peking recently with one of his tours, said he had been organising such visits since 1964. The party leaving at the end of this month was his twentieth.

Study China expects those joining its tours to have a serious or professional interest in some aspect of Chinese life, whether medicine or education, industry or art history. Where possible the Chinese will try to arrange for those with special interests to meet their opposite numbers in Chinese institutions.

Serenissima have taken a group to China every year since 1974, and hope to offer a fifth such tour in 1978. The price of its 1977, 23-day tour (19 nights in China), which also took in Hongkong, was £1,195. With Lord Norwich as chairman, Serenissima caters especially for those with an interest, either personal or professional, in art and sends a guest lecturer with a specialised knowledge of some aspect of it with each party.

Thomas Cook, which before the last war had offices in several cities in China, has sent two groups there this year with a third leaving at the end of this month. It hopes to arrange two further tours next year. The

cultural tour leaving on October 31 will be spending 21 days away, with 18 nights in China. It costs £998.

Regent Holidays (100W) moved into the China market in 1976, and hopes to offer two tours next year, one in May and the other in August. Each will be limited to 23 people and will be away for about 20 days.

Like the other two tour operators, its itineraries for 1978 have not yet been confirmed by the China Travel Service in Peking, but it hopes to include visits to three large centres, including Peking, as well as one smaller one.

Mr Neil Taylor, one of the directors, said he expected the 1978 tours to cost about £970 a head, a £20 increase on 1976. Both groups would travel by Swissair, flying into China by way of Peking and home by way of Hongkong. A Chinese-speaking tour leader accompanies each group.

Like Serenissima, Regent Holidays also arranges China visits by specialist groups, in addition to its own tours. As with the other tour operators, the price includes full board in China, with accommodation in twin-bedded rooms. Single rooms cannot be booked in advance, though they are sometimes available on the spot at a cost of about £6 a night.

Although not a tour operator, the largest organizer of visits to China is the Society

for Anglo-Chinese Understanding (SACU) - whose members have been travelling there in parties of 20 to 25 people since 1970. At present about five groups go every year, usually between mid-March and mid-October.

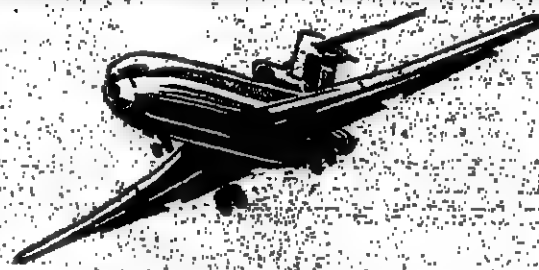
The tours are open to members only, but membership is normally accepted with a completed application form. The emphasis is less on conventional sight-seeing than on observing the ordinary people of China through visits to schools, private homes, factories, hospitals and similar institutions, often in small groups.

Some tours are "study tours" in that all those going around four preliminary weekends for lectures and discussions to give them a greater understanding of Chinese life and to get more

out of their visit. More general tours are also organized, with only one preliminary weekend meeting. The cost of SACU tours this year was about £850 a head, exclusive for three weeks away. Travel is by Swissair.

Normally, except for official guests or those on business, it is difficult for individuals to get visas for China, unless part of a group. However, an exception is made for those with relatives working in China, notably in embassies.

One other way of getting to China is by ship, either aboard a passenger-carrying cargo ship, sailing as a Chinese port, in which case a shore pass can usually be obtained, or on a cruise ship, some of which call at Chinese ports.



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Kweilin, one of the country's most famous beauty spots, is now open to foreigners—but Huhehot, capital of Inner Mongolia, by invitation only

Legendary hills dominate unchanged landscape

by Peter Hopkirk

Whoever chose the seven wonders of the world had probably never been to Kweilin in southern China, or there might have been a eighth.

Created millions of years ago by a vast geological upheaval, and made legendary by the master painters and poets of the Tang and Sung dynasties, the landscape around Kweilin can only be described as astonishing.

As far as the eye can see in every direction there rise rank upon rank of weirdly misshapen hills. Some are tall and craggy, like giant thrones. Others are low and rounded, like giant heads.

Many have picturesque names. There is Elephant Trunk Hill, Looking Around Hill, Hill with a Hole through it, Treasure Hoard Hill, Shoufooy Hill and Pagoda Hill, to name just a few.

On the river, junks in full sail dot the water, while fishermen extract cormorant fish from their birds' gullets. Small children punt past on bamboo rafts, steering casually across the treacherous rocks.

No factories, modern buildings or new towns have encroached on that beautiful stretch of water.

The remarkable scenery around Kweilin (romanized to Guilin by the Chinese) has been enjoyed by many travellers, both today and in the past, as the most beautiful in China. It is certainly one of the great beauty spots of the world, though few Westerners have ever seen it except through the Sung painters.

The best way to do so is to take a slow boat from Kweilin down the river Li. For some 50 miles this gently-moving waterway meanders between the peaks of this strange but marvellous landscape before flowing into China's great Pearl River, hundreds of miles to the south.

To sail down the Li-kang (Kiang means river) is to go back 1,000 years. The boat carries one or two small picture-book villages which can hardly have changed in centuries. In the green paddy fields ground men and women toil. They wear graceful, wide-brimmed hats. Water buffaloes, often walking belly-deep in water, pull primitive implements.

On the river, junks in full sail dot the water, while fishermen extract cormorant fish from their birds' gullets. Small children punt past on bamboo rafts, steering casually across the treacherous rocks.

No factories, modern buildings or new towns have encroached on that beautiful stretch of water.

Wherever one turns one sees vignettes of Chinese rural life, making it a rich hunting ground for photographer and artist. It is an ecologist's dream.

However unpromising the weather, no one fortunate enough to visit Kweilin, one of the 34 cities and towns now open to tourists, should miss the river trip. The morning I went it was raining heavily and the sky was like lead. But once on the river I realized why Chinese artists often depict their mountains wreathed in mist or cloud, so greatly does it enhance the beauty and drama of their landscape. The heavy rain, moreover, had transformed the shal low water to the colour of jade.

For 1,000 years or more Chinese artists, poets and travellers have been visiting Kweilin to see this legendary scene for themselves. Kweilin was probably founded in the second century BC. It was then called Shihun—"the beginning of peace".

During the Japanese war, Kweilin was a revolutionary stronghold. Printing houses and newspapers took refuge there and the population of the sleepy town rose rapidly. In 1938 it was bombed by the Japanese, and again in 1942. In 1944 it was almost destroyed by the retreating Kuomintang troops as part of their scorched earth policy.

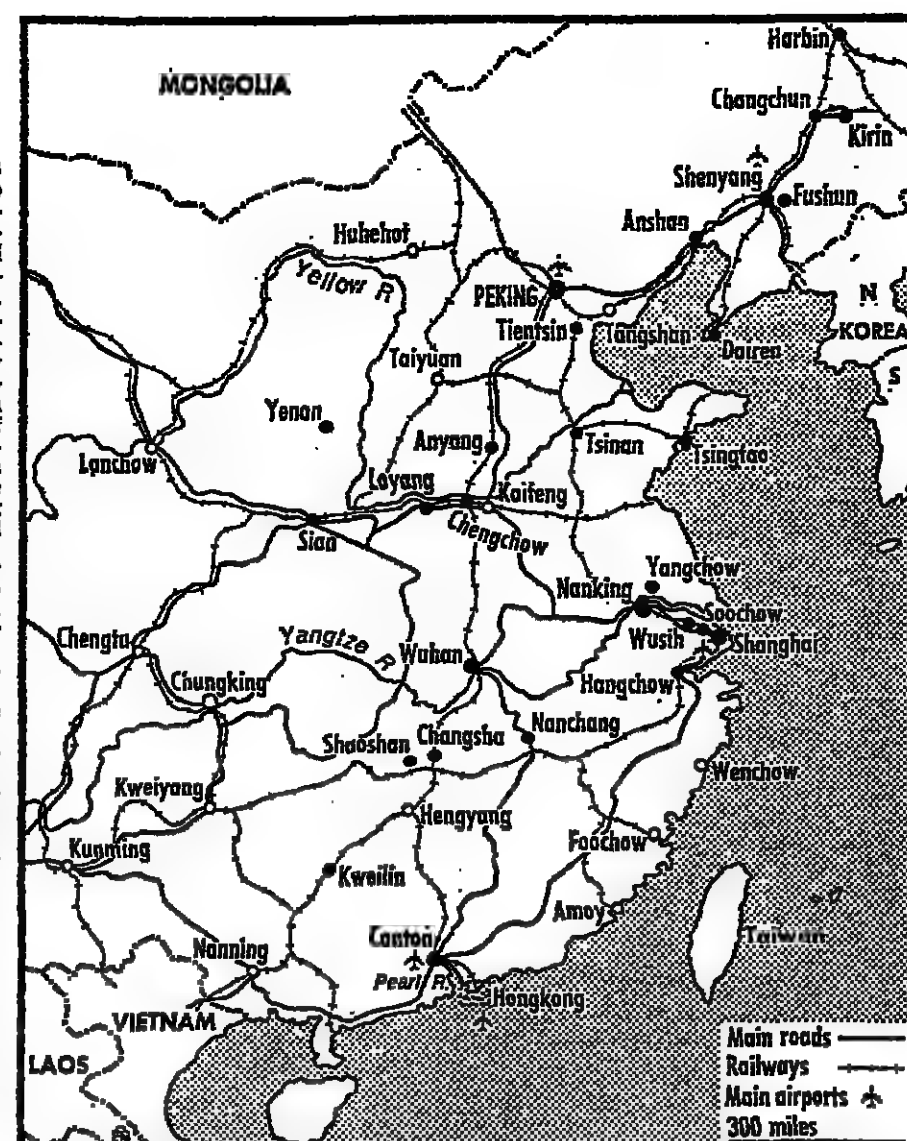
Today thousands of visitors, including many Chinese, go to Kweilin. The town has been rebuilt and has two modern hotels. Its restaurants offer such local delicacies as mountain frog and bamboo-eating fox. The former I found most appetizing.

Kweilin was once a consumer town; now it is a producer city, with its many new factories. Despite its subtropical climate, which accounts for the lushness of the landscape, it is not unknown for it to snow. In 1975, and again last year, the tops of its eccentric-looking hills were briefly capped with snow.

The hills often have their secrets. Reaching deep into the heart of many of them are huge caves, only a few of which have been thoroughly explored. A number of those more easily reached, moreover, have been opened to visitors.

Amazing forests of stalactites and stalagmites reveal themselves under floodlighting. Some of the shapes, which have taken millions of years to form, look strangely like birds, animals and trees. One is assured that no sculptors have been used to help them along, though in some caves ancient Buddhist sculptures and inscriptions have been found.

China's main population centres, including many of the 34 cities and towns (marked with black dots) now open to tourists and other visitors.



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A home for only the fittest

by Elizabeth Wright

In a world of increasingly obstructed horizons, that of Inner Mongolia seems to stretch to infinity. Situated in central north China, it is reached, either by aircraft or after a lengthy circuitous journey, by train. The train passes the Great Wall, winds through the Great Horse Mountains, and grinds slowly north-west across the seemingly boundless steppes to Huhehot, capital of the Inner Mongolia autonomous region.

One of five autonomous regions (areas where large numbers of minority nationalities live), Inner Mongolia covers 450,000 sq km and shares about 1,200 miles of border with Outer Mongolia, a Russian satellite. Its proximity to China's great enemy is reflected in a spirit of vigilance, even greater than in other parts of China. Rifle-bearing militia patrol the border areas, mounted on sturdy ponies.

from whose galloping backs they shoot with deadly accuracy—worthy successors of Genghis Khan.

Although only 300 miles north-west of Peking, Huhehot is of limited access to foreigners. It is a developing city, with immovable blocks of flats and factory buildings. The overriding impression is similar to that of any other city in north China—sun-coloured buildings, clean streets, the omnipresent dust and a population dressed in green, blue, khaki.

But outside the city the world changes. A devastating drought in the winter and spring of 1976/77 inhibited agriculture to such an extent that wheat sown in March had not yet appeared above the parched soil by May. And from the train the landscape only occasionally excites by signs of habitation. The Inner Mongolians are

only too aware of the necessity of improving the pastures for their 40 million head of livestock. Much research into hardy grass strains is being done, but the task is a daunting one in a country where even in the so-called boundless grassland of the east the maximum rainfall is a mere 150 mm a year. In the arid west it is only 40 mm a year, and the resulting scrub and tamarisk provide scant fodder. But, like arid areas everywhere, when the rain does fall the growth is startlingly rich and varied.

Although it is called the Inner Mongolia autonomous region, its population consists of eight million Han Chinese, 450,000 Mongols and 100,000 members of other minority nationalities, including Koreans, Manchus, Tibetans and Miao. The Hans are almost exclusively engaged in industry and agriculture, and the Mongols in herding. The Mongols are easily distinguished from the Chinese. The former have

broad, flat faces, wide cheekbones, skin blackened by the sun and wind, and eyes narrowed against the dust. Their bodies are sturdy, and toughened by life in a climate where the winter temperatures drop to -40°C. It is a land where only the fittest survive.

Like their fellow Mongols across the border they are an independent race. They laugh readily, and burst into song at the slightest excuse. And a song or a joke, or a compliment always provides a good reason for drinking yet another cup of koumiss (clear, yellow, fermented mare's milk—the only alcoholic drink that I have ever found so revolting as to be almost undrinkable).

Formerly a nomadic people, the Mongols have now mostly been settled in pastoral communes. Here they tend their horses, cows, sheep and Bactrian camels—the last-named of crucial importance for transport in deep snow, and also for their

wool. Some brick houses have been built for those engaged in administration of the communes as well as for the old people and young children to live in during the freezing winter months.

However, with a small population occupying such a huge area, the communes are much larger than those in more densely populated areas of China. In a commune near Shihhot, 300 miles north-east of Huhehot, there is on average one person and 43 head of livestock (mostly sheep) for each square kilometre. And within the 1,660 sq km of this and similar communes the herdsmen are nomadic, moving their flocks year by year to fresh grazing ground to grazing ground.

As one watches a herdsmen lassie on a small white horse, the traditional Inner Mongolian dress—blue, red and yellow—seems to have stood still for centuries. But modern techniques have been adopted for livestock breeding. Bulls and sheep imported from

France, Canada, and Britain have been crossed with tough local breeds to produce better quality meat and wool.

In the area around Shihhot, where Mongols outnumber Hans, national costume is still worn, although costly, and less practical than the Chinese "bikes". And Mongol is spoken almost exclusively. Our conversations had to be translated from Chinese into Mongolian, and back again.

In the urban and commune shops all the traditional necessities of Mongolian life are available—riding boots, clothing, pipes with long stems and small bowls, bridle, silver jewelry, rugs and all manner of horse tackle, including the wooden saddles with high pommels, beautifully decorated in red and gold.

Throughout Inner Mongolia all official documents are written in both Mongolian and Chinese, as are posters and other announcements in

factories. However, the overriding impression is that there is more written Chinese to be seen than written Mongol. That is hardly surprising, perhaps, when Chinese outnumber Mongols by 16 to one.

The central Government has often been accused of "sinifying" the minority nationalities of China, and it is undeniable that a great number of Han Chinese have been moved into the area. It is also true that Inner Mongolia has been truncated, with the eastern and western extremes lopped off to form part of those provinces which surround the autonomous region.

But on the credit side, plague and syphilis, once endemic, have been wiped out; even nomadic children attend peripatetic schools; large desert areas have been reclaimed; and the industry and agriculture run by the Han Chinese being economic benefits that are of great assistance to the Mongols.

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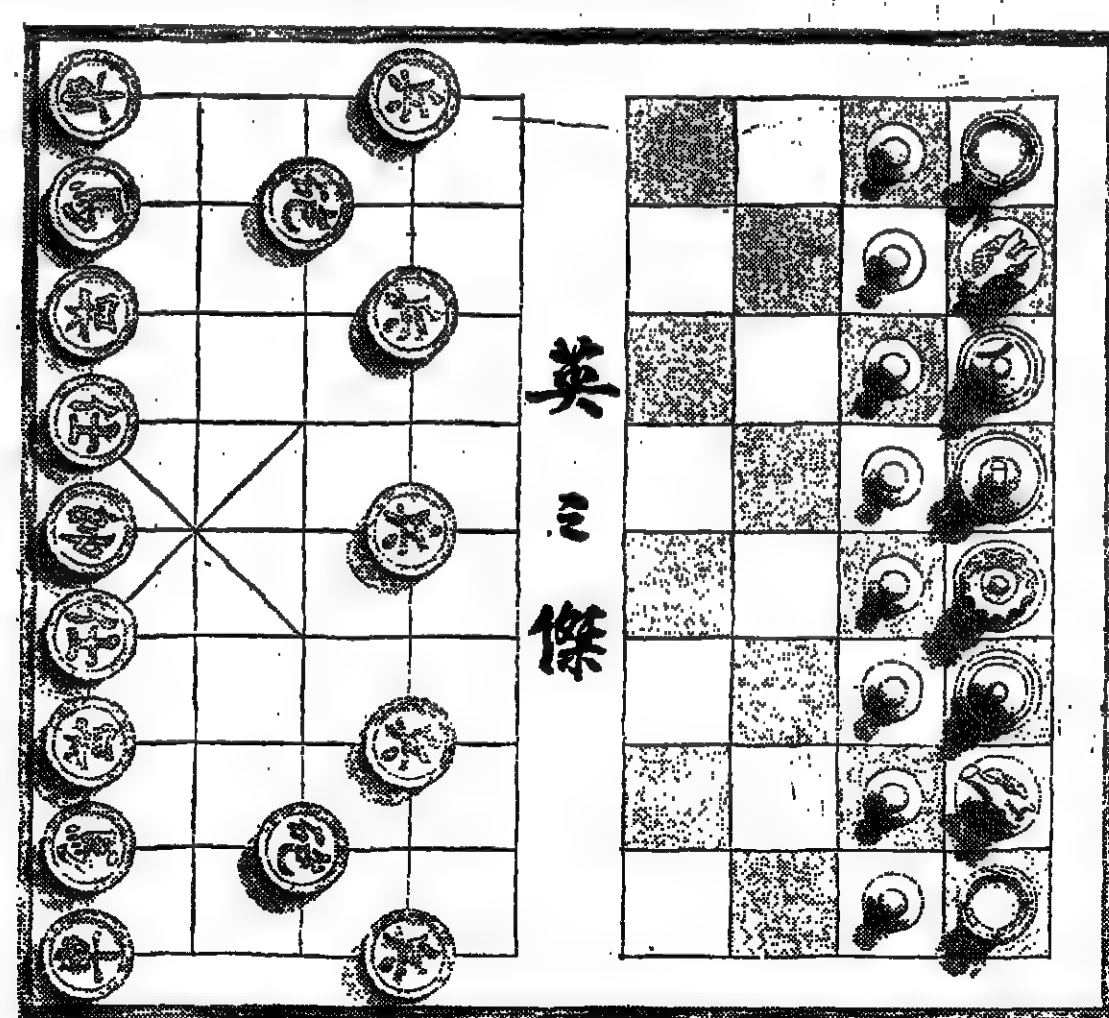
And, in particular, to enable suppliers to offer deferred payment terms for major development projects in China.

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Dawn of the industrial space age, page 19

Borrowing need still leaves room for £1,000m autumn boost

By David Blake
Economics Correspondent

The Government moved substantially into deficit in September, but the figures are still running well below the forecasts made at the time of the Budget. They point to room for a £1,000m autumn boost.

The September deficit of £500m for the central Government was in large measure a reflection of £450m of tax rebates paid as a result of conditional tax changes in the Budget.

It is significantly lower than the £575m deficit of September, 1976. Taken together with previous months when the Government has actually been in surplus it brings the total for the first nine months of the year to £2,095m, compared with a Budget forecast for the year as a whole of £2,750m.

Lower revenue and other factors are likely to prevent the central Government's borrowing need from being the full £1,700m below estimates that the latest figures would imply on the basis of simple extrapolation.

There thus has to be considerable caution about assuming that total public borrowing this year will be as much as £1,700m, below the £3,500m forecast in the Budget.

None the less, it is clear that the public sector deficit will be considerably below the Budget forecast, with a shortfall of at least £1,000m probable.

In some ways there is less uncertainty than there was last autumn, when public borrowing also turned out to be considerably lower than the Treasury forecast. This is because it was then feared that local authorities had been using the short-term money markets to finance longer-term borrowing which would later be part of the total public deficit.

Under a voluntary agreement between central and local government, this cannot happen this year.

Both expenditures and revenue are running more favourably for the Government than was expected when the Budget projections were drawn up. Total expenditures so far from the Consolidated Fund in the first nine months of 1977, compared with the 10 per cent increase forecast.

Revenue has performed even better. If the windfall bonus of the sales of BP stock is excluded, it is running 16 per

Substantial growth in money stock indicated

By John Whitmore
Finance Correspondent

After the negligible growth in the money supply in the banking month to August, growth in the five weeks to mid-September has probably been substantial.

This is at least the indication provided by the latest figures for the banking system's eligible liabilities—essentially its sterling deposits. These grew by 2.9 per cent to £38,795m during the month.

A fairly sharp increase in money supply in September would not come as a total surprise.

The authorities made it clear at the time that the August standstill was exceptional, reflecting a central government surplus and a high level of gilt sales. Since then the Government has moved back into deficit and gilt sales have dropped off, though remaining extremely high by historic standards.

At the same time, more detailed figures from the London clearing banks suggest that inflows from overseas may have played a major part in a large increase in United Kingdom residents' sterling deposits in the latest month. These rose by £629m, largely in current account form.

The banks feel that this may reflect reverse leading and lagging by British companies—speeding remittances from overseas on fears that sterling might rise—and, for similar reasons, larger sterling deposits being held by British-based multinationals. There was probably also some benefit from the tax rebate towards the end of August.

On the other hand, private sector loan demand has probably played a smaller part in money supply growth than in recent months. Private sector lending by the clearing banks fell by £78m in nominal terms, while the underlying rate of increase probably fell from 11.5 to 11.0 per cent.

This may reflect some small loss of market share by the clearing banks as they have lowered their lending rates more sharply. But it also seems that loan demand from industry has been flat as manufacturers have moved to de-stock after the involuntary stock-building seen earlier this year.

Since rates are rising, lending pressure to lower their base rates so far this week, it may be that the clearing banks will give it further thought before the weekend.

In particular, they will be keeping a close eye on the Bank of England's action in the discount market today and tomorrow. If the Bank suggests that it would tolerate a drop in the minimum lending rate to 5 per cent on Friday, the clearing banks may well find their present position untenable.

Financial Editor, page 19

BUDGET DEFICIT (£ million)

Financial Year	Actual	Forecast	Other	Revised
1976	2,351	2,353	-486	5,087
76-77	2,729	2,820	-563	5,850
77-78	940	2,584	-590	2,854
1978				
Q1	820	821	-287	1,414
Q2	443	1,176	-315	2,254
Q3	214	1,709	-181	1,855
Q4	215	1,558	-11	572
1977				
Q1	134	690	-153	671
Q2	258	737	-122	873
Q3	77	44	-8	210
Q4	50	821	40	875
1977				
Jan	41	1,406	-203	1,244
Feb	118	1,386	-292	1,192
Mar	500	125	-187	438
Apr	100	460	-298	60
May	88	460	-298	60
Jun	88	460	-298	60
Jul	88	460	-298	60
Aug	88	460	-298	60
Sep	88	460	-298	60
Oct	88	460	-298	60
Nov	88	460	-298	60
Dec	88	460	-298	60

Canadian dollar at all-time low against US currency

By Caroline Atkinson

The Canadian dollar fell to an all-time low against the United States dollar on the foreign exchanges yesterday. Its value at the close in London was 91.815 United States cents, down 14 points from Monday's close. During the day it touched 91.69 cents.

Throughout this year the Canadian currency has weakened from its position of near parity. It is so closely linked with the fortunes of the United States economy that it is one of the few major currencies which does not usually benefit from a fall in the United States dollar, and can even be weakened.

Political and economic problems in Canada have left its currency extremely vulnerable. A fall in the dollar inflows from the United States has also the rate.

The United States dollar picked up on the exchanges yesterday largely as a result of fears of a Brexiteer interest rate, and widespread market expectations that New York rates will go still higher. It

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Fairey forced to ask for receiver

By Our Financial Staff

Continuing difficulties over the disposal of its Belgian aviation subsidiary have finally forced Fairey to ask its bankers to appoint a receiver.

Problems at Fairey, the aviation and engineering group which disclosed a £3.7m fall in pre-tax profits to £2.7m in July, are pressure from its auditors to write off stock deficiencies and learning and development costs, arise from the refusal of the Belgian Government to agree to the sale of the Britten-Norman business.

The appointment of a receiver is being widely seen in the City as a move to force the Belgian Government to adopt a more accommodating stance.

Agreement had earlier been reached for Short Brothers and Harland, the Belfast aircraft and missile group, to purchase the Britten-Norman division.

This has now broken down because the Belgian authorities have not agreed to the transfer of part of the subsidiary's capital equipment out of the country since this would involve between 400 and 550 of the division's 1,600 staff being made redundant.

Directors of the Belgian subsidiary, who face heavy penalties for continuing to trade if the company is insolvent, have recently applied to have the company wound up.

Now that the Belgian company is under the jurisdiction of the courts, guarantees amounting to about £15m have become payable by the parent company.

With Fairey already pressing against its £35m borrowing limits, the company has had no

alternative but to appoint a receiver for the entire group.

Mr Robert Molder, chairman of Fairey, said last night that the step had been taken to protect the Belgian authorities that there was "no golden egg hidden away in England".

He hoped that appointing a receiver would encourage the Belgians to agree to the sale of the Britten-Norman assets.

In Belfast, Mr Philip Foreman, managing director of the start-owned Short Brothers, said that he was still interested in acquiring the Britten-Norman concern involving the Islander and Trislander light aircraft business. He added that he will be continuing talks with the receiver.

Mr Molder emphasized last night that two other applicants had shown interest in acquiring the Britten-Norman interests.

At the same time, however, he was not holding out much hope that Fairey would regain its remaining interests, fully expecting the receiver to find a buyer for them.

In a statement yesterday, the receiver, Sir Charles Hardie of chartered accountants Dixon Wilson, said that he had begun an immediate assessment of all other United Kingdom subsidiary companies which according to the Fairey directors were profitable and had substantial order books.

Since most of the important Fairey factories in the United Kingdom are in development areas, the Department of Industry announced yesterday that it would use its powers under the 1972 Industry Act to help purchasers maintain employment at Fairey's plants.

NCB fund to invest more in small companies

By Roulard Pullen

An important policy decision has been taken by the National Coal Board pension fund to direct more of its resources to the support of small companies.

Its move, coming at a time when the problems of small companies are a matter of increasing debate, is likely to have an important influence on the thinking of other investing institutions on their role in financing British industry.

Mr Hugh Jenkins, manager of the NCB pension fund, said yesterday that the intention was to invest "substantial sums of up to 30 per cent of our annual £200m cash flow over the next year" across a wide range of industrial finance activities.

This will include project finance and leasing, as well as taking stakes in small companies. The scheme has been working in principle for about two years, during which time some £17m has been invested.

Over the past year, some £5m has been put into small companies and the idea now is to "substantialise" this involvement.

Although pension funds have shown an eclectic interest in other forms of investment in the past—such as the British Rail pension fund's investment in art—almost all of them have gone into marketable securities and property.

Previous attempts to take a closer interest in industrial companies, such as the ill-fated Spey Investments, have tended to confirm the pension fund's view that their expertise lies in investment rather than management.

Earlier this year three institutions—Prudential Assurance, Midland Bank and the British Gas Central pension funds—clubbed together to form Morescrest Investments as a vehicle for channelling equity funds into small companies.

Morescrest will have only £1m in assets and the importance of the NCB move lies in the fact that it could have upwards of £50m a year available for small concerns—which, for example, dwarfs Equity Capital for Industry's £40m fund.

Mr Jenkins emphasized that the NCB would not be a "sleeping" partner but would have a close involvement in the companies it took an interest in.

He pointed to the importance of the investment of the NCB's funds in the purchase of the Hamble Hill Samuel and Singer & Friedlander to provide the necessary industrial expertise.

The NCB has already flexed its muscles this year with the purchase of the 22 per cent stake in the 1977-78 season of the Henley Sykes jointly with Hambro and the sub-underwriting of Aurora's rights issue.

Leyland pay warning: 'time has run out'

By Clifford Webb

Leyland Cars is warning its 100,000 manual workers that unless the modified package of pay and industrial relations reforms is accepted at next Tuesday's meeting of senior shop stewards, it may not be able to resist pressure for the group to be broken up.

A senior executive told a press briefing last night: "Time has run out. Either we accept the package or we have to face the consequences. Over the next few days we shall be spelling this out to employees in individual letters."

"Management do not share the view of some people that the National Enterprise Board is sabre rattling when it warns of the dire consequences if labour relations and productivity do not improve dramatically."

"Let there be no doubt about the seriousness of the present situation. Leyland Cars is in a critical condition. If the proposals should fail to gain acceptance, the Leyland Cars group is in danger of being broken up."

He declined to indicate how long the £50m received from the NCB 12 days ago would be used to finance the group's operations, but pointed out that this was money intended for urgently needed capital investment. The weekly wage bill for manual workers alone is around £8m.

The effects of the recent 11-week long Leyland Cars strike are still being felt, and with internal strikes yesterday halting production of Allegro and Mini at Longbridge, the Rover 3500 at Solihull, the TR7 at Liverpool, and the Marina at Coventry, the group's flow position is in danger again.

Some 8,000 workers were idle last night. In each case the stoppage results from management attempts to enforce existing productivity agreements.

The next seven days will be crucial. Tomorrow the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, meeting in York, are expected to approve the bargaining reforms which were modified as a result of last Friday's negotiations between management and leaders of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

The T&GWU agreed to fall into line with other unions and accept the controversial issue of group wide wage bargaining provided implementation was deferred from next month to November, 1978.

Leyland is trying to ensure that the mass of its normally quiescent workers make their views known to senior stewards Tuesday's crucial meeting.

If agreement is reached, manual workers will receive a 10 per cent wage increase from next month. In addition special payments totalling £50m a year will be phased in over the next two years.

And starting in January employees will also qualify for self-financing bonus payments.

In the meantime the Leyland Cars working party set up by the company in March, which was reconstituted as a central bargaining unit and given the task of agreeing a new grade structure and finalizing a security of earnings plan and an incentive savings plan and an incentive savings plan.

At the top of the British Leyland said yesterday that a dispute by 40 plant shop workers at their Cowley assembly plant had already cost them £8m worth of lost production. They walked out eight days ago after refusing to accept new work to be done today for the production of 700 Marina cars, and 3,800 other workers have been laid off until next Monday.



Jones call for piecemeal

A return to piecemeal in the motor industry was advocated yesterday by Mr Jack Jones, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union. His comment came at a joint press conference in London with Mr Douglas Fraser, president of the United Automobile Workers' Union of America (above, left). Mr Jones said he had always been an advocate of piecemeal.

"I have worked it and I know the difference between that and time payments. When piecemeal was dropped in British Leyland, production went down by 20 per cent."

Vauxhall men poised for strike over differentials

By R. W. Shakespeares

About 400 key maintenance engineers at Vauxhall Motors, Ellesmere Port on Merseyside, are expected to begin a strike from tonight in support of demands for the immediate restoration of skilled pay differentials, which they claim have been seriously eroded during the past two years.

However, these talks, in which the maintenance engineers hoped that their pay differential claim would be met, proved inconclusive.

Vauxhall, which is owned by General Motors of America, has already improved on its original offer of an 8.5 per cent increase for all workers which was rejected by the union negotiating team.

Instead it has offered a basic increase of 9.6 per cent, just within the Chancellor's ceiling, and held out the prospect of additional increases of up to £6 a week through a "self-financing" productivity deal.

The company has accompanied the issue with a profit forecast of £36m pre-tax for 1977 compared with £33.25m last year, a figure that was below most stock market hopes of around £38m.

United's last rights issue was to raise £14m in May, 1975 and Mr Hector Laing, the chairman, then gave the reason that working capital increases were limiting capital spending. In that year capital spending came to £14m followed by £26m in 1976 and an estimated £45m this year.

Mr Laing said yesterday that about half of the new capital would be spent in the United States, where the company's Kooler subsidiary has been working at 98 per cent capacity and there seems to be potential for volume growth.

The profits forecast is made in the light of management

representatives to secure a new pay deal for all of its 23,000 manual workers in plants at Luton, Dunstable and Ellesmere Port within the Government's 10 per cent wage ceiling.

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Hopes dashed of early start on talks for curbing steel exports to United States

From Peter Hill
Rome Oct. 11

Prospects for an early start to negotiations between the United States and Europe for curbing steel exports to the American market receded today.

After the offer by Eurofer, the European steel Federation, to negotiate a voluntary restraint deal, members of the organization met to discuss broad details of the package, but made little progress.

The Eurofer representatives keep the EEC Commission to negotiate directly with the American Government. But talks here today made little advance in relation to the coverage of any restraint pact, or indeed on the period to be used as a reference point.

The American steel industry has been predictably cool on the offer, and American industry leaders claim that they have support from the American public to obtain relief from import competition through existing anti-dumping legislation.

Concerted rationalization of the international steel market was advocated by Mr Giovanni Agnelli, president of Fiat in a speech to delegates at the International Iron and Steel Institute Conference today.

The road to self-regulation and concerted rationalization, he continued, seemed to be unavoidable. No nation could expect to waste resources through obsolete, poorly integrated and under-utilized iron and steel plants.

Mr Robert Strauss, President Carter's chief trade officer, expressed doubts on "an orderly marketing arrangement" in a speech at a news conference here today.

Earlier, he had said that the Government was forming an interagency group to explore problems of the industry and imported steel and would produce a report recommending the steel industry's problems. Other aspects were worldwide overproduction, lack of capital for modernization, inefficient furnaces in the United States.

Into the melting pot? page 19

United Biscuits launches rights issue for £29.8m

By Bryan Appleyard

United Biscuits (Holdings), the K.P. McVitie and Wimpy group, is asking its shareholders for £29.8m by way of a one-for-five rights issue at 148p a share against a pre-issue market price of 181p.

The company has accompanied the issue with a profit forecast of £36m pre-tax for 1977 compared with £33.25m last year, a figure that was below most stock market hopes of around £38m.

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The profits forecast is made in the light of management

accounts for the first 32 weeks of this year. At the interim stage Mr Laing said, trading both in the United Kingdom and United States was less buoyant than expected but British prospects looked brighter with hopes of a substantial increase in consumer spending.

The issue has won United Treasury permission for a 27 per cent increase in the dividend payout which will total 8.157p gross this year to provide a yield of 5.5 per cent at the issue price.

News of the issue came on the same day as the announcement of disappointing interim figures from the United Kingdom's main United Kingdom competitor, Associated Biscuit Manufacturers, the Huxley and Palmer, Jacob and Peak Frean group.

In the first 36 weeks of this year pre-tax profits fell from £5.9m to £5.3m on sales up from £110m to £130.1m. The main setback was in the overseas companies which produced trading profits down from £3.8m to £2.7m compared with an improvement in the United Kingdom from £2.5m to £3.6m.

Financial Editor, page 19

Canadian dollar at all-time low against US currency

By Caroline Atkinson

The Canadian dollar fell to an all-time low against the United States dollar on the foreign exchanges yesterday. Its value at the close in London was 91.815 United States cents, down 14 points from Monday's close. During the day it touched 91.69 cents.

Throughout this year the Canadian currency has weakened from its position of near parity. It is so closely linked with the fortunes of the United States economy that it is one of the few major currencies which does not usually benefit from a fall in the United States dollar, and can even be weakened.

Political and economic problems in Canada have left its currency extremely vulnerable. A fall in the dollar inflows from the United States has also the rate.

The United States dollar picked up on the exchanges yesterday largely as a result of fears of a Brexiteer interest rate, and widespread market expectations that New York rates will go still higher. It

Five-ship British orders go to foreign yards

Ocean Transport and Trading, which in August placed a £50m order for three ships with a British yard, yesterday announced that it had given orders for a further five ships to overseas yards.

Two ships multi-purpose roll-on roll-off vessels are to be built by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries in Japan and three semi-container multi-purpose cargo liners will be constructed at the Sasebo shipyards in Poland.

An Ocean spokesman said last night that there had been no tenders from British yards for the roll-on-roll-off ships.

Shipbuilders' society, page 18

How the markets moved

THE FT INDEX: 5118 +27

The FT index: 5118 +27

Rises

Assam Front	28p to 37sp
Barclays	5p to 32p
Dunlop	1p to 9p
EMI	2p to 21p
Fisons	15p to 38sp
Harrisons C	13p to 37sp
Hunting Gls	42p to 27p

Falls

Akroyd & S	5p to 27sp
Am Rice	5p to 27sp
De Beers	10p to 51p
Diploma Inv	8p to 167p
Fisher J	6p to 137p
Hammerley	5p to 18sp

Lafarge	8p to 9sp
Linford	5p to 29sp
Lombard	4p to 8p
Newmark	12p to 23p
Ricardo Eng	20p to 48p
Schroder	20p to 48p
Thorn	10p to 432p

Hillards	8p to 29sp
W. G. & S.	7p to 430p
Lindbergs	5p to 13sp
Rubercoid	5p to 35p
Senior Eng	11p to 25p
Swan Hunter	5p to 145p
Utd Biscuits	14p to 167p

THE POUND

Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia \$	1.63
Austria Sch	30.25
Belgium Fr	61.75
Canada \$	1.95
Denmark Kr	17.07
Finland Mk	7.49
France Fr	8.82
Germany Dm	4.21
Greece Dr	84.50
Hongkong \$	6.40
Italy L	157.00
Japan Yen	475.00
Netherlands Gld	4.46
Norway Kr	13.40
Portugal Esc	75.50
S. Africa Rd	1.82
Sweden Kr	123.00
Switzerland Fr	8.73
U.S. \$	4.23
U.S. \$	1.80
Yugoslavia Dn	34.25

sterling lost 11 points to 51.7392.
The effective exchange rate index
was at 62.4.

Gold: \$0.25 an ounce to
\$58.875.

1.56877 on Tuesday.
\$28.0, 6.664187.

Commodities: Reuter's index was
at 1504.5 (previous 1503.3).

Equities edged higher.

GI-Eddged securities staged a
strong recovery.

Reports pages 28 and 21

US for small denomination bank notes
as supplied voluntarily by Barclays
Bank Ltd. The bank said it
will apply to travellers' cheques and other
documents.

Dollar devaluation 'no solution' for US deficit

From Frank Vogel
United States Economics Correspondent
Washington, Oct 11

Top American Administration officials and several leading private economists predicted today that the balance of payments deficit might be higher in 1978 than this year's record total.

They gave a warning, however, that the solution to the nation's payments problems did not rest in a depreciation of the exchange rate of the dollar.

Dr Lawrence Krause, of the Brookings Institution, however, disagreed. He told a congressional committee that some correction in the "over-valuation" of the dollar would be helpful.

He said some people feared that a decline in the value of the dollar would signal a loss of confidence in the United States, but "such a fear is totally misplaced".

The experts and officials appearing before the Joint Economic Committee of the Congress today all said that protectionism was rising throughout the world.

Dr William Nordhaus, a member of President Carter's Council of Economic

Advisers, reflected the widely shared view on this matter. "Depressed economic conditions", he said, "are fueling the fires of protectionism everywhere".

Increased American protectionism would invite retaliation, promote higher international inflation and inevitably result in increased unemployment.

Mr Anthony Solomon, the Treasury Under-Secretary for Monetary Affairs, predicted that both the trade and current account payments deficits in 1978 might be higher than the 1977 totals, which respectively amounted to \$30,000m (about £16,477m) and \$18,000m.

He said the dollar remained strong in terms of all foreign currencies taken together, and that it would continue to remain strong.

People abroad had confidence in the stability of the American economic and political situation, and in this context he pointed out: "Our economy is growing. In two years—1976 and 1977—the increase in our market will be

greater than the equivalent of the entire economy of Britain."

Mr Solomon told the committee that to reduce the payments deficit the United States must continue to strengthen the domestic economy, strengthen the competitiveness of export industries, limit exchange market intervention to the countering of disorderly conditions and "above all deal effectively with our energy problem".

He also said the United States must continue to urge countries with payments surpluses to expand their economies more rapidly.

On this point, Congressman Henry Reuss, the committee's chairman, suggested that the Administration and the International Monetary Fund should do more to ensure that Japan allowed the yen to rise to a realistic level.

Mr Robert Slighter, a vice-president of the Chase Manhattan Bank, said that the United States should continue to press Japan to dismantle its diverse arrangements which control international capital movements.

He said: "We suspect that these controls have worked to depress the value of the yen."

Dr Kranz argued that such countries as Britain and Italy should be willing to build more German reserves, rather than dollars, in their reserves, and that by aggressively discouraging countries from doing this the Germans were "shirking an important responsibility".

Congressman Reuss was exceptionally critical of the Administration for failing to do more to press the Japanese to allow the yen to appreciate strongly and for failing to press Japan to refrain from exchange market manipulation.

He added that the failure of Japan to accept more imports and to allow the yen to float upward was now "turning the American labour movement into a protectionist".

"I am concerned about our continued effort to keep this problem under the sofa. We are pretty gutsy in imposing import quotas, but so terribly timid on blowing the whistle on exchange market manipulation."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Coach operators' EEC dilemma

From the Director General of the Confederation of British Road Passenger Transport

Sir, Like Mr G. K. Newman of the RHA (Letters, October 10), I found the article by Michael Baily a valuable exposition of the problems associated with EEC drivers' hours regulations. However, Mr Newman's conclusion that "the road transport industry here genuinely cannot afford to comply with the existing regulations by January, 1978" misses the point so far as the bus and coach industry is concerned.

The consequences for passenger transport are far more serious than for the carriage of goods. Transport is but one element in the price of goods and services. If drivers' work will not result in any commodity ceasing to be produced. Yet that is, in effect, what EEC Regulation 543/69 will do for passenger transport: many services will be withdrawn because there are insufficient drivers holding the necessary PSV driving licence, or because they have been made

totally uneconomic. Flexibility of operation is vital while passengers have to be carried every day and night throughout the year.

Regulation 543/69 will act against the interests of passengers, drivers, conductors and operating companies with no compensating benefits. Britain has had laws controlling drivers' hours for nearly 50 years (before any other European country) but our pattern of work does not fit the EEC Regulation. Our case against 543/69 is a strong one, based on practical reality, not on abstract theory.

Recently an official of the European Commission visited bus and coach depots in this country. His first reaction was that the duty schedules were very reasonable and we would have no trouble in meeting the EEC requirements. It had to be explained how the schedules contravened those requirements in many ways. Moreover, trade union representatives present told him that the existing schedules had been negotiated

to suit the convenience of drivers as well as the needs of the public, and the EEC Regulation could not satisfy either.

Bus and coach operators have been active in Europe since 1969 in trying to expose the danger of 543/69, but neither in negotiating Britain's entry into the Community nor in the later renegotiations would British governments face this issue. Now Mr Rodgers and his officials are faced with a virtually impossible task. Hard as the Secretary of State is trying to raise the issue from a political to a practical level, he is handicapped by British Government silence in the past.

If, or when, the public have to suffer increased fares and withdrawal of service, it should be understood that this is in no way the fault of the bus and coach industry. Yours truly, D. R. QUINN, Secretary, House, 52 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3LZ, October 11.

No justification for 'penal' tax on pensioners' income

From Dr G. A. Wilkinson

Sir, I wonder how many of your readers are aware of the grossly inequitable operation of the income tax regulations in regard to old age pensioners with a modest income?

This follows from the progressive reduction in age allowance on a sliding scale if one's gross income exceeds a certain limit. Take as an example a married couple of pensionable age with a gross income in excess of £3,500. The age allowance which they receive is reduced from the original value of £1,765 by two thirds of the amount by which their gross income exceeds £3,500, until for a gross income of £4,205 the allowance has diminished to a value of £1,295.

This progressive reduction of the tax free allowance for a married pensioner couple having a gross income lying between £3,500 and £4,205 is, in effect, a gross income of £4,205 the allowance has diminished to a value of £1,295.

World shipbuilding capacity will be four times the demand by 1980 if present trends continue, Admiral Sir Anthony Griffin, chairman of British Shipbuilders, said yesterday.

He described the situation for shipbuilders in Britain and Western Europe as "the most critical in the history of the industry".

Opening an engineering exhibition in Newcastle upon Tyne, he said the demand for new ships was continuously falling and a record tonnage of ships was laid up.

The first priority was to go all out for new orders for merchant ships.

be reached for a taxable income in excess of £10,000 for a couple below pensionable age. This is a gross income of £10,000, not net of tax.

It is assumed in the table that the only source of income for which the couple is eligible is the age allowance and that the remainder of their income is taxable.

There can be no justification for the current form of penal provision on those in the £3,500-£4,205 gross income band. Surely it could be much more equitable to lump the third and fourth bands together into a common taxation rate of 38 per cent and to abandon the subterfuge of age allowance reduction altogether.

Yours faithfully, G. A. WILKINSON, 10 Jubilee Drive, Ash Vale, Surrey, GU12 5JN, October 4.

Proceeds from share options

From Mr J. McKAY

Sir, Mr N. Hodgson's letter of September 29 on share options and wages cannot be allowed to go unanswered. He is quite wrong to suggest that the proceeds from exercising share options are only subject to capital gains tax. In fact, under present United Kingdom legislation, any gains realized as the result of exercising share options are treated as income and are taxable at the individual's marginal rate of income tax.

Mr Hodgson is also wrong when he refers to "share options" as a "tax-free" option. Most companies granting options to senior employees do this at the market price at the time of the grant. So options granted, for example, at the present time when the market is high and the share price is at a premium to its intrinsic value, are not "tax-free".

Yours faithfully, JOHN MCKAY, 1 Scotland, 52 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3LZ, October 6.

Inland Revenue and a question of privacy

From Mr K. A. Sherwood

Sir, Your correspondent Mr L. D. Morgan (September 29) has not made enough of the fact that he has never authorized his building society to give information to the Inland Revenue. Neither do I expect he has authorized his bank to tell the Inland Revenue of the interest which has been credited to his deposit account, nor the BBC to report the fees which he has earned from broadcasting (if such be the case). But, notwithstanding Mr Morgan's protest, Parliament has authorized the

Inland Revenue to obtain such information from building societies, banks and fee-paying bodies like the BBC.

It is, regrettably, probably necessary for the Inland Revenue to have such powers, but why doesn't the law provide that a copy of all information given be sent to the same time to the individual taxpayer?

This would be essential if self-assessment were introduced, but even now, much trouble and expense is caused by back-draw investigations which arise merely because taxpayers sometimes, quite genuinely, forget

to return a source of income.

Above all, surely there is a basic question of privacy at stake. Why should people be forced to tell tales about their own private affairs? Perhaps the Committee on Data Protection will recommend a solution that will be both satisfactory, equitable and fair to the individual taxpayer.

Yours faithfully, KENNETH A. SHERWOOD, 6 Long Lane, ECUA 5PE, October 7.

CBI urges delay of mini-Budget

By Malcolm Brown

Industrial leaders are to ask the Chancellor next week to put off any mini-Budget until at least December.

Senior officials of the confederation, who will be seeing Mr Healey on October 19, are to tell him it would be unwise to stimulate the economy until it becomes much clearer which direction the trend in wage settlements is taking. The CBI believes this will not be evident until Christmas.

They will also tell the Chancellor that if he decides he must give some stimulation it should be by direct tax cuts, not a reduction in value added tax, and should preferably be in the form of a pre-bid to be implemented in April.

Employers' leaders will also ask Mr Healey to consider some help for small companies and for concerns in the construction industry.

Latest results from the CBI's data bank indicate that the trend in pay settlements is slightly better than might have been expected. "But it is still very much touch and go", an official said.

At the end of the first 10 weeks since the finish of phase two, 493 claims covering 3,500,000 employees had been recorded and there were 167 settlements covering 600,000 employees. Nearly all settlements were within the Government's 10 per cent guideline and the few which were outside covered perhaps 2 to 3 per cent of the 600,000.

About one third of claims recorded would increase employment costs by over 30 per cent and the great majority were for more than 20 per cent.

Du Pont's £29m rubber plant in N Ireland will mean fewer jobs

By Robert Rodwell

Du Pont's decision, announced simultaneously in New York and Belfast yesterday to invest £29m on a new synthetic rubber plant in Northern Ireland is not quite the economic boom to the province that it initially appeared to be.

The new plant, on Du Pont's £60m Maydown site at Londonderry, will in fact represent a permanent loss of between 600 and 1,000 jobs when it becomes operational in 1980, after a short-term gain during the construction phase, which will start next year.

Du Pont executives in Northern Ireland preferred their names not to be used after Mr Jeffrey Agate, the company's former regional director at Londonderry, was assassinated by the Provisional IRA last February.

They and Mr Concanon, the Northern Ireland Minister of State, made it clear in Stormont yesterday that failure to replace the company's existing neoprene synthetic rubber plant

with an entirely new process based on cheaper feedstock would have resulted in closure of the entire plant and the loss of at least 450 jobs.

Neoprene production at Maydown is now based on uncompetitive acetylene produced at a neighbouring British Oxygen plant established purely for the purpose and employing nearly 250.

The new process will use butadiene feedstock imported from as yet unselected oil refineries in Britain or Europe. Butadiene is considerably cheaper and is now the raw material of most synthetic rubber plants elsewhere.

When the new Maydown plant comes on stream in mid-1980—there will be scarcely any break in production and no pay-off among Du Pont personnel, the BOC acetylene plant will become redundant and will be closed.

Du Pont's neoprene plant shares the same site, maintenance force and fixed overheads with three other processes, employing Orion synthetic fibre, Rylenne organic isocyanate foam liquid and Lycra elastane fibre, and together the Du Pont complex employs more than 2,000 people.

Du Pont managers made it clear yesterday that smooth labour and government relations in Northern Ireland persuaded the parent company to replace the uncompetitive Maydown plant.

Local executives, however, seemed confident that the decision would be in favour of retaining the Maydown plant, which is modern and entirely competitive. A crucial factor is likely to be the 30 per cent industrial electricity tariff cuts in Northern Ireland brought about by government subsidy a few weeks ago.

Mr Concanon said the power price cut bringing costs down to prevailing British levels had been a key factor at the end of about three years of discussions between Stormont ministers, officials and senior Du Pont executives.

Phillips Petroleum group makes oil find north-east of Shetland Islands

By Roger Vielvoys

An exploration group led by Phillips Petroleum has made an oil discovery more than 110 miles north-east of the Shetland Islands.

The well on block 210/15, in deep and difficult waters on the edge of the continental shelf, is due east of British Petroleum's Magnus field—the most northerly commercial oil

field in the North Sea. A statement on the drilling is expected from Phillips later this week.

The discovery, which the block proves successful, would boost the hopes for building a spur pipeline into the main Niska line into the Shetlands.

British Petroleum is evaluating whether production from Magnus alone would warrant a spur line into the Niska pipeline to absorb some of its spare

capacity. The alternative would be direct loading into tankers.

There is also discussion within the company of drilling or constructing a platform should be used for Magnus. BP hopes to reach a decision and gain government approval for its plan by the end of the year.

On block 210/15, Phillips is the operator for a consortium that includes Agip, Fina, Century Power & Light, Ultramar, and British Electric Traction.

Building societies to discuss Abbey line on investment

By Margaret Stone

Building society leaders meet tomorrow to discuss the action of the Abbey National Building Society which has branched out into property investment.

At the moment no other large building society has come out in support of the Abbey line, but significantly it seems that all of the chief executives who are attending tomorrow's meeting have been given an open vote by their board. In other words, the general opinion swings in Abbey's favour, then it could be that all BSA members will be recommended to follow Abbey.

There is a lot of sympathy within the movement for Abbey's desire to look after the savers' interests, who have usually been sacrificed in favour of the borrowers.

There is little doubt that at the present time it would be suspicious to reward investors. Building societies have made handsome gains out of the gildest market and the cut in basic rate tax has helped the composite rate of tax societies pay on behalf of investors.

This means that for the first time in five years building societies are in a position to add to their reserves or, as the case may be, can ignore their operating margins, temporarily, and live off their fat. Abbey, which has got its computer programme complete and has its new office building offices is particularly well placed at the moment.

While most of the other societies could follow Abbey's example (although some find it more difficult) their arguments for not following suit are likely to win the day.

One school of thought believes that it is stupid to reward investors today when the money is pouring into the societies (some £450m is expected for September and October) and, equally good, instead, better to save away the money until it is really needed when the general interest rate rises again. Then, it is argued, it would be possible to hitch up the investment rate without a consequential increase in the mortgage rate.

The other argument which is likely to be employed is that if all the societies do widen the margins between the investment and mortgage rates, the benefit of the increased spread could be given to the borrower as big mortgage interest rate cuts helps the Government in its fight against inflation.

On present form the odds are that the Abbey will be the child and left to go its own way. But, the free vote given to those attending the council meeting, means that the issue is still open.

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Increase in house prices slower in last quarter

House prices rose by 2 per cent in the third quarter of the year according to the housing indices published yesterday by the Nationwide Building Society.

This rate of increase is lower than that recorded in the previous quarter, when prices rose on average by just over 3 per cent, and also slightly lower than the rate of increase reported a year ago.

The Nationwide indices, covering new, modern and older properties, are based on approvals by the society each quarter, and are fairly up-to-date.

New house prices rose by 2 per cent, bringing the increase over the past 12 months to 10 per cent.

Modern second-hand properties rose by 2 per cent also, with the annual rate of increase being 7 per cent.

Fewer private homes built

Private housing starts this year seem likely to number between 130,000 and 135,000, the second lowest total in ten years.

According to figures published today by the National House-Building Council, the consumer watchdog for private housing, starts in September totalled 12,602, a drop of 13 per cent from the same month last year. Completions at 13,005 were also down, by 8 per cent.

of reconvening the arbitration panel.

But French reluctance to reopen discussions voluntarily is hardly surprising in view of speculation that several interesting geological structures lie in the small wedge-shaped sea area in contention.

In view of the valuable oil-bearing territory that Britain lost in the northern part of the North Sea through ineffective negotiations with the Norwegians, technical errors in the Western Approaches judgment are likely to be pursued with vigour.

Britain also claims to have found an error in drawing the median line around the Channel Islands. According to the arbitrator's written judgment, the line around the islands should take into account the 12-mile fishing limit. But the line on the map does not appear to have made this distinction.

Renewed uncertainty about a small sector of the line is unlikely to delay designation of territory in the Western Approaches for oil exploration by the Department of Energy, and the inclusion of some of this area in the next round of licence distributions tentatively set for next spring.

ASSOCIATED BISCUITS

Interim report

Unaudited results for the 36 weeks ended 11th September 1977

	36 weeks 1977	36 weeks 1976	Year 1976
Sales	1,977	1,976	2,004
UK companies	80,632	83,915	103,588
Overseas companies	46,978	43,887	65,364
Share of overseas associate	2,458	2,224	4,427
	130,068	110,026	173,359
Trading profit:			
UK companies	3,884	2,477	4,883
Overseas companies	2,724	3,840	5,311
	6,608	6,317	10,294
Interest payable and other items	1,028	454	129
Profit before tax	5,580	5,863	10,168
Estimated taxation	3,028	3,311	4,898
Profit after tax	2,552	2,552	5,270
Minority interests	322	413	810
Profit attributable to ABM	1,928	2,139	4,461
Earnings per Ordinary Share	4.2p	4.7p	10.2p

Interim dividend on Ordinary and A Ordinary Shares payable on 3.1.78 7.5% 6.6%

to shareholders on the register on 9.12.77.

Cash £834,000 £568,000

Note: The results of the overseas operations for the 36 weeks 1977 have been expressed in sterling at the rates of exchange approximating to those ruling at 11th September 1977.

Group Results The results for the first 36 weeks of 1977 reflect the difficult trading conditions encountered in several areas. Sales are up by 18% at £130 million. Pre-tax profits are down from £5,863,000 to £5,280,000.

United Kingdom Companies The principal reason for better profit figures in the UK is a much improved performance by Huntley Boome & Stevens. In the Biscuit and Confectionery Divisions the increased UK turnover represents price rather than volume; exports show a 42% increase.

Overseas Companies Results from Canada are disappointing due entirely to the David Company in Montreal which has experienced lower sales volume and reduced margins. Our French subsidiary met problems arising from its programme of new investment. Sales were good but efficiency was temporarily affected. The "Indianisation" of Britannia Biscuit Co. has been delayed, but should be completed early in 1978 when our holding will be brought below 40%.

Outlook Despite disappointing overseas figures, we feel confident in the future of all our international interests and we are actively planning to develop further overseas. In the UK, the biscuit and confectionery trades may continue to be difficult with volume increases only available at low margins, but we are optimistic about certain new products and we are implementing plans for improving cost-effectiveness in both production and sales areas. Nevertheless, the requirement to settle wage demands within the government guidelines must cause concern.

Dividend The permitted 1977 dividend (including 0.12% in respect of 1976 payable following the change in AGT to 34%) is 15.93%; of this total 7.50% has been declared as an interim. The 0.12% payable in respect of 1978 will be added to 1976 for dividend control calculations.

The Associated Biscuit Manufacturers Limited

Huntley & Palmers - Jacob Peck Frean - O.P. Chocolate



UK and France clash over portions for sea oil hunt

By Roger Vielvoys

France has rejected a claim that Britain has been robbed of 300 square miles of potentially promising oil-bearing seabed in the Western Approaches

through a technical error in drawing the median line between British and French waters.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office is informing the international arbitration panel of the error, it has found in the judgment over the Western Approaches and is asking for a revision of the median line.

An October 18 deadline has been set for clarifying any points from the judgment.

French government officials were asked to discuss a revision of the median line after the Hydrographer to the Navy discovered that the arbitration panel's cartographer failed to take account of the earth's curvature in drawing the off-shore boundary based on the judgment published in the summer.

Foreign Office representatives had extended the deadline, hoping that the French would agree to discussions on the course of the line without the time-consuming business

of reconvening the arbitration panel.

But French reluctance to reopen discussions voluntarily is hardly surprising in view of speculation that several interesting geological structures lie in the small wedge-shaped sea area in contention.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

A marathon session on Ariel's future role

It is not a favourite topic among merchant bankers at the moment. The board of the computerized dealing system set up almost five years ago to challenge the Stock Exchange's monopoly recently asked the shareholders, the 17 Accepting Houses, they would subordinate their loans to Ariel to creditors. In fact, Ariel's chairman, Charles Clay, assures me there is nothing unusual in this. It was simply a question of putting into legal terms something which always existed in fact, since the City's leading merchant banks were hardly likely to cease supporting a protégé like Ariel.

Nevertheless, the merchant banks, while complying with Ariel's request, are cautious people when it comes to making changes like this even if they do represent a tidying up exercise. Moreover, since it became widely known that negotiations were taking place with The Stock Exchange to see whether there was a basis for selling Ariel they have been naturally concerned about the future role of their computerized market place.



Mr Hector Laing, chairman of United Biscuits.

It is not that Ariel has not already performed a useful purpose, nor that it does continue to do so. It is after all a valuable weapon for the Accepting Houses when it comes to talking about participation in the proposed new Council for the Securities Industry, a sort of self-regulatory version of the SEC, which the Governor of the Bank of England, Mr Gordon Richardson is apparently keen to set up.

That apart, having started so well the lions are treated to a little bit of a let-down. Income tax rates have been raised, and the new income tax rates have been announced. The second point is that the new income tax rates have been announced. The second point is that the new income tax rates have been announced. The second point is that the new income tax rates have been announced.

Oil Limited
1976
£'000
14,594
1,747
839
18.5p
2.889p

Oil Limited
1976
£'000
14,594
1,747
839
18.5p
2.889p

with a yield of 6.2 per cent and price earnings ratio of almost 8.

United fell 14p to 167p against the issue price of 148p. At the ex-rights price of 164p the shares yield 5 per cent and must look attractive.

The banking system's monthly eligible liability figures have not provided a particularly precise indication of money supply growth in recent months. But it seems highly unlikely that a 2.9 per cent increase in eligible liabilities in the banking month to mid-September will not have translated into a fairly large increase in the money supply for the same period when figures are published next week.

That may not be that much of a worry in the sense that the money supply growth to mid-August was marginally undershooting the 9 to 13 per cent annual growth target. Overseas inflows are presumed to be affecting deposit growth, but not necessarily in any regular pattern. Similarly, the underlying trend in private sector loan demand may have weakened somewhat, perhaps reflecting de-stocking, but that, too, is a trend that could change fairly fast.

Swan Hunter Unresolved questions

Preliminary results from Swan Hunter for the 18 months to June 30 are about as unhelpful as they could possibly be. Subsidiaries which have been nationalized have contributed a dividend payment only while trading profits have been included from continuing activities and the 1975 activities have been adjusted accordingly.

The effect of this is to translate a £1.9m loss from the marine and engineering division in 1975 into a profit of £363,000 in the comparative figures with the latest results. In the 18 month total this figure has grown to a trading profit of £614,000. Apparently the division was profitable during this period but what proportion of dividends is from nationalization candidates and what proportion is trading profits from retained companies is not explained.

Thus the total pre-tax profit figure of £7.3m against the £5.7m figure for the previous 12 months (compared with £5.1m made up in a very different way in the 1975 accounts) is almost totally meaningless.

At December 1975 there were substantial loans outstanding from the group to the shipbuilding subsidiaries, which should have been repaid on vesting day. Whatever arrangements were made it appears that Swan currently has more than £20m in cash before any receipts from the nationalization compensation.

This is equivalent to more than £1 per share, which compares with a share price of 145p down 5p yesterday. Nationalization compensation must be added on top.

Outsider estimates of likely compensation vary from £5m to £14m. The lower figure is equal to 27p a share, so given a reasonable compromise the 145p share price looks about right. But all eyes will be on the annual report, which should give much more information to shareholders and hopefully say what Swan intends to do with its cash.

Peter Hill on the International Iron and Steel Institute conference in Rome

Trade agreements into the melting pot?

Eishiro Sano, president of Nippon Steel Corporation, the world's largest steel company, quoted the words of a Zen priest in his opening address to the annual conference of the International Iron and Steel Institute in Rome this week. Real calmness, the priest had written, is that which one should be able to sense when all things are in a tumultuous state.

Ap and soothing words for an industry which is in a state of turmoil, the like of which most of the delegates have never experienced before. But even so the new IISI chairman was speaking there were few—if any—steelmen who showed any sign of sensing the inner calm.

Outside the conference hall, the preoccupation of most of the delegates was with the threat of an American hard-line protectionist policy which could spark off a trade war with the United States pitting itself against the massed battalions of the European and Japanese steel industries.

The reasons for the American concern and pressure from the domestic steel industry for protection have been widely chronicled. Imports have risen steeply in the past year and now account for about one-fifth of total United States consumption with about £1,500m. Plant closures and lay-offs have become an almost daily event and

at present more than twenty thousand American steelworkers are unemployed. Disgruntled steelmakers have been murmuring darkly for months about the need for the rise in imports to be curbed. The murmuring has become a roar—despite the conclusion of an American government committee that the fundamental cause of the industry's problems was structural weaknesses rather than import competition.

In a bid to introduce an element of calmness—and reduce the growing political pressure on his administration—President Carter will on Thursday this week be the host at an American steel summit attended by top government officials, steel industry executives and union leaders which will hammer out the measures which should be taken to defuse the crisis.

Significantly, a number of top American steel industry bosses have stayed in the United States rather than travel to Rome.

The meeting takes place at a time when two major American steel companies indicated their intention to file anti-dumping applications against both Japanese and European companies exporting to the United States.

The summit will also take account of the offer by Europe, the European steelmakers' association, to negotiate, through

the EEC Commission, a voluntary restraint agreement on their steel shipments to the United States as part of an overall pact by all exporters of steel to America including Japan. There are, however, indications that the initial response to the proposal is not particularly enthusiastic.

Reaction by American steelmen here have been cool and sceptical. Typical was the response of Frederick Jaicks, chairman of Inland Steel, who said that such agreements (and there have been several in the past) would be an unsatisfactory solution to the flood of imports.

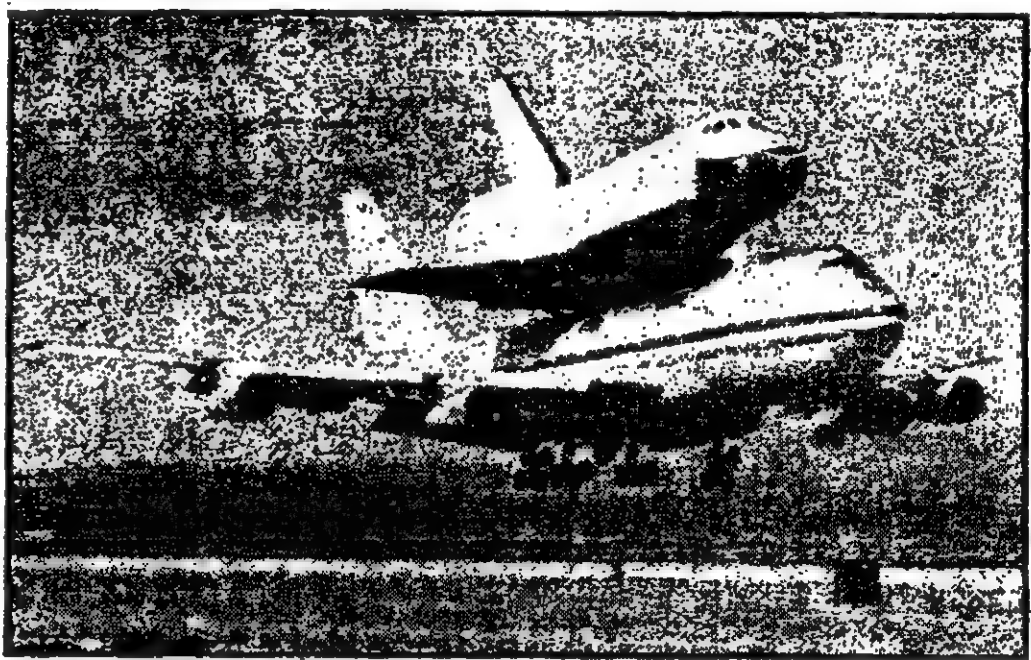
The threat of a steel trade war has cast a shadow over the Rome conference. It was concern at the dangers which prompted Viscount, Eric MacDonagh, the EEC's industry commissioner, to express the Commission's grave anxieties in the course of an informal luncheon address before the conference began.

Falling prices, reduced profitability, huge losses by many steel companies, and massive over-capacity, have caused the industry to reduce expansion plans by over 40 per cent on projections made only three years ago.

Even in Japan, the world's most efficient producer of steel, plants are running at only about 70 per cent of capacity, and

Malcolm Brown

Countdown to the industrial space age



The space shuttle orbiter "Enterprise" riding piggy-back on a Boeing 747 over the Edwards testing grounds earlier this year.

programme have decided, in collaboration with their political masters, that the space effort must take a new direction: the prestige-seeking and emotional drive of the early years will give way in the '80s and '90s to a more commercially-oriented use of space.

The space shuttle programme is central to this. The shuttle is a reusable transport system which will eventually carry men and materials into orbit and then return them to earth. Each shuttle orbiter will be capable of making up to 100 missions, returning to earth after each and landing on airstrips like a conventional aircraft.

The orbiter has a tremendous payload capacity of up to 65,000lb in low earth orbit. These two factors, reusability and high payload capacity—its being examined by NASA's and by 1990 a full-blown space factory could be in operation.

Which is not to say that by the 90s we will be seeing the first McDonald's hamburger franchise in space or an orbiting British Leyland production line.

The key to the industrializa-

It is this which is making scientists talk increasingly of the possibility of industrializing space.

In broad terms, the considerable work looking something like this: in 1980 SpaceLab, the orbiting laboratory being developed by the European Space Agency, will be carried aloft by the orbiter and scientists will carry out experiments in materials science and technology.

Some of the parameters of space factories have been outlined by Mr Donald Waltz, a senior systems engineer for TRV, one of the leading American companies in space research, in a paper to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

One strong possibility which he foresees is the manufacture of electrical materials consisting mainly of very pure and

of space is gravity, or rather lack of gravity: the aim is to use the zero-gravity of space to manufacture new, high value materials such as pure semiconductors and electronic devices which could not be made—or made to the same quality—in the earth's gravity field.

At the simplest level, since containers would not be necessary in space factories the chance of impurities being transmitted to materials would be nil.

Some of the parameters of space factories have been outlined by Mr Donald Waltz, a senior systems engineer for TRV, one of the leading American companies in space research, in a paper to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

One strong possibility which he foresees is the manufacture of electrical materials consisting mainly of very pure and

structurally perfect monocrystalline semiconductors. These are the basis of integrated circuit technology and the market for them should be very large.

Other candidates for the space factory are high purity glass which could be used for high power laser systems and low loss fibre-optic transmission lines of higher quality than can be made on earth.

The importance of such developments can be gauged from the fact that technologists are already talking seriously about replacing the expensive copper wiring of telecommunications systems with fibres. The system would be cheaper, more efficient and much less disruptive. To take a simple example: instead of having to rip up plaster to embed wiring in a house it would be possible simply to string the almost invisible and totally safe fibres along the surface.

Already a long list of possible products for space manufacture is emerging, and the list daily grows longer. Among the products already identified according to Waltz are: magnetic switches, holographic storage crystals, infrared transmitting glasses, advanced performance lenses and mirrors, high purity biological materials for use in making vaccines, hormone production, improved nuclear fuel rods, and at the more mundane level, improved lubricants.

But is it all possible? Physically there seems no reason to doubt this. But at the end of the day it may well be other factors which decide.

First, the politicians will have to get their heads together to draw up the basic outlines of a programme, then the lawyers and accountants will have to sort out problems of demarcation and cost. If they can all reach some sort of agreement the scientists and technologists and manufacturers may find themselves in a comparatively new working environment by the end of this century.

Business Diary: Bowring's satellite • Fire power

It's a better week than this for the insurance brokers C. T. Bowring to launch their Space Projects subsidiary—the week which the latest Russian space mission flopped and in which people were still trying to sort out last month's Euro-satellite fiasco.

Mr Bowring, the managing director of Space Projects, told *Business Diary* yesterday: "Business is good for the 'space business'."

Brokers, of course, are only interested in commission agents, and the risks to the insurers who stand the cost of anything going wrong. Thus the failure of last month's satellite launch, for which Bowring's aviation division handled the entire insurance deal, should in the long run do nothing to produce more clients, as well as higher premium rates and presumably better commission for the brokers.

already topped \$1,000m. Bolton told *Business Diary* yesterday with relish: "Even the Russians are beginning to express an interest in the types of space cover we can arrange."

Not that he has actually ever been dismissed himself. But after launching his new book *Dismissals* (New Commercial Publishing, £12.50) with a lengthy dissertation on the state of the law relating to the order of the boot yesterday, he did tell *Business Diary* that 10 years ago he left *The Times* *Business News* in circumstances which nowadays might be construed as a "constructive dismissal".

You are constructively dismissed if you can show your employer has passed you over, he says, "I have generally led to an improvement in industrial relations and must be acknowledged as providing constructive benefit to employers as well as employees and the community as a whole."

director of Societe Generale de Belgique, at the European Federation and is chairman of our own Society for Long Range Planning.

Most SLRP members are business people like Kyle himself, a former director of planning and development for Carreras Rothmans. There are however a number of corporate and individual members from Nedo and government ministries.

He has already a theme for next September's congress—emerging markets and how to react to them—and plans on a two-and-a-half day meeting addressed by over 20 speakers. All this—and this year's congress doesn't even start in Hawaii until next month.

It pays to plan at least a year ahead, however, because that is the minimum notice for the calibre of speaker Kyle has in mind. This sounds ominously yet another dose of Herman Kahn, or Milton Friedman, but Kyle refuses to name names yet.

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(Clothing & Fashion Leather Manufacturers)

Continuing Growth

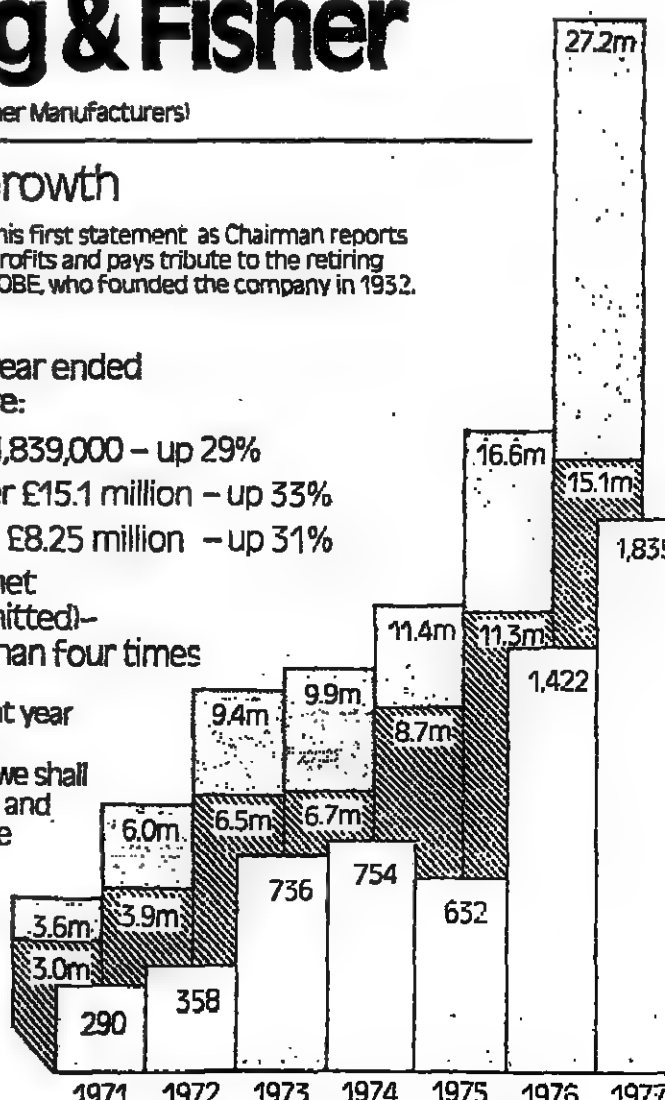
The Hon. E.D.G. Davies in his first statement as Chairman reports another year of record profits and pays tribute to the retiring Chairman, Mr J.P. Strong OBE, who founded the company in 1932.

Highlights of the year ended 31st May 1977 were:

- Pre-tax profit £1,839,000 – up 29%
- Leather Turnover £15.1 million – up 33%
- Leather Exports £8.25 million – up 31%
- Dividend 4.21p net (maximum permitted) – covered more than four times

Turning to the current year the Chairman says: "I am confident that we shall continue to progress and that the results will be satisfactory when I report to you a year hence."

- Total Turnover £ million
- Leather Turnover £ million
- Profit before taxation £'000



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